

FAIRY TAIL

52



Hiro Mashima

FAIRYTAIL

52



HIRO MASHIMA



Chapter 439: The Albareth Empire ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 3

Chapter 440: God Serena ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 23

Chapter 441: Caracol Island ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 43

Chapter 442: Rules of the Area ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 63

Chapter 443: And the Land Just Vanished ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 83

Chapter 444: Emperor Spriggan ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 113

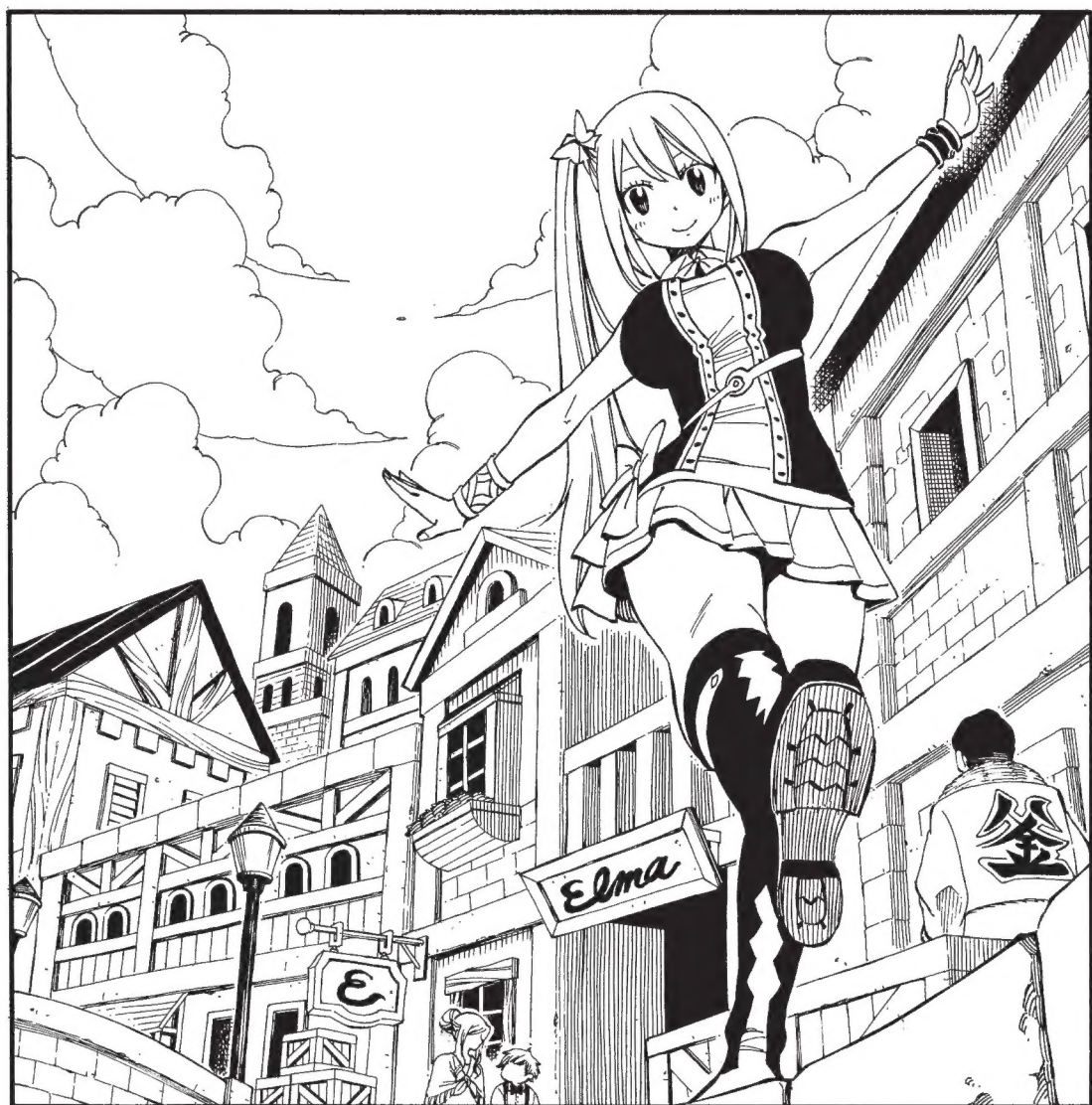
Chapter 445: The Grotesque Fairy ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 133

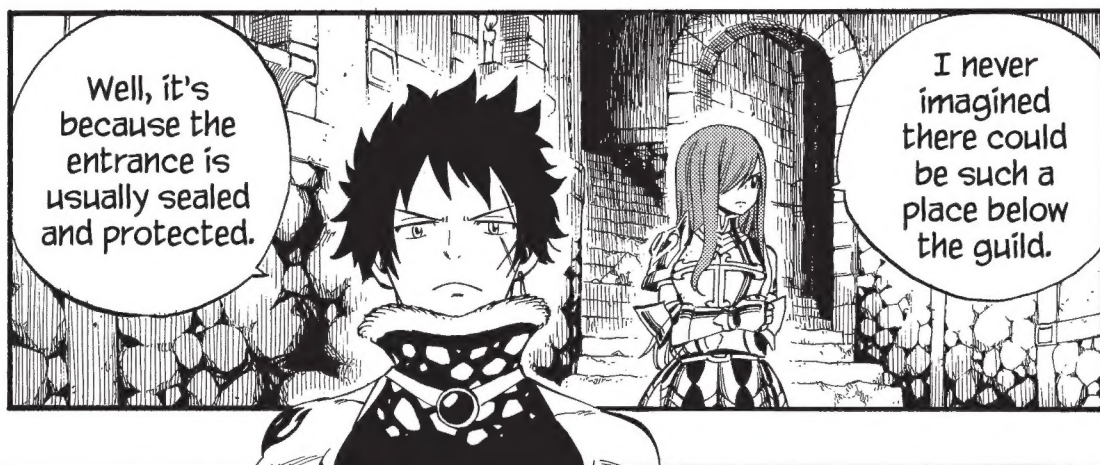
Chapter 446: The Land the Gods Abandoned ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 153

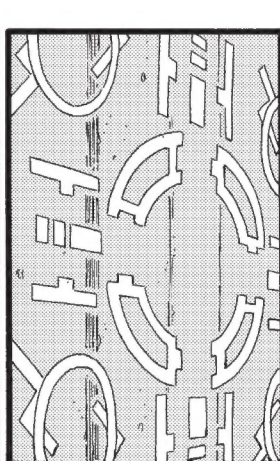
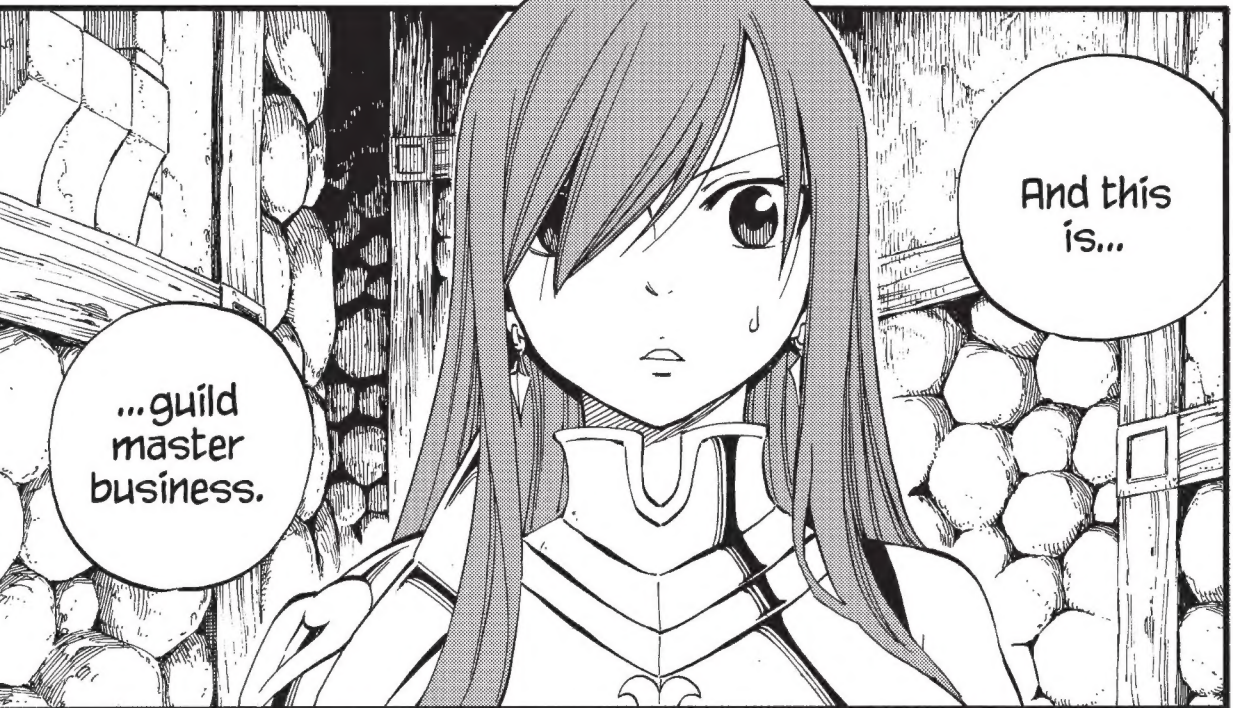
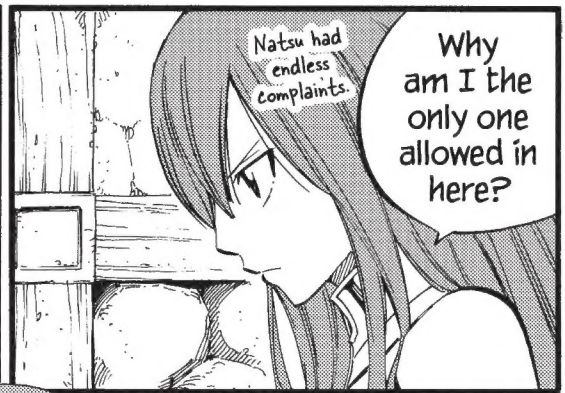
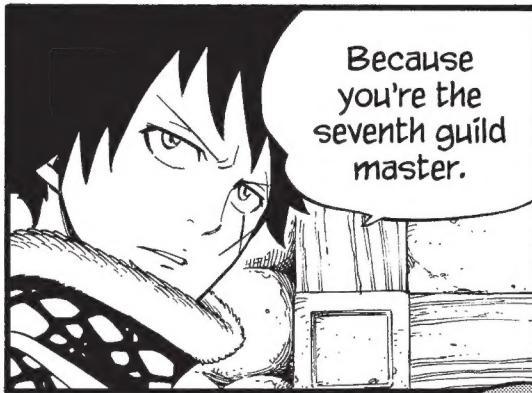
FAIRY TAIL

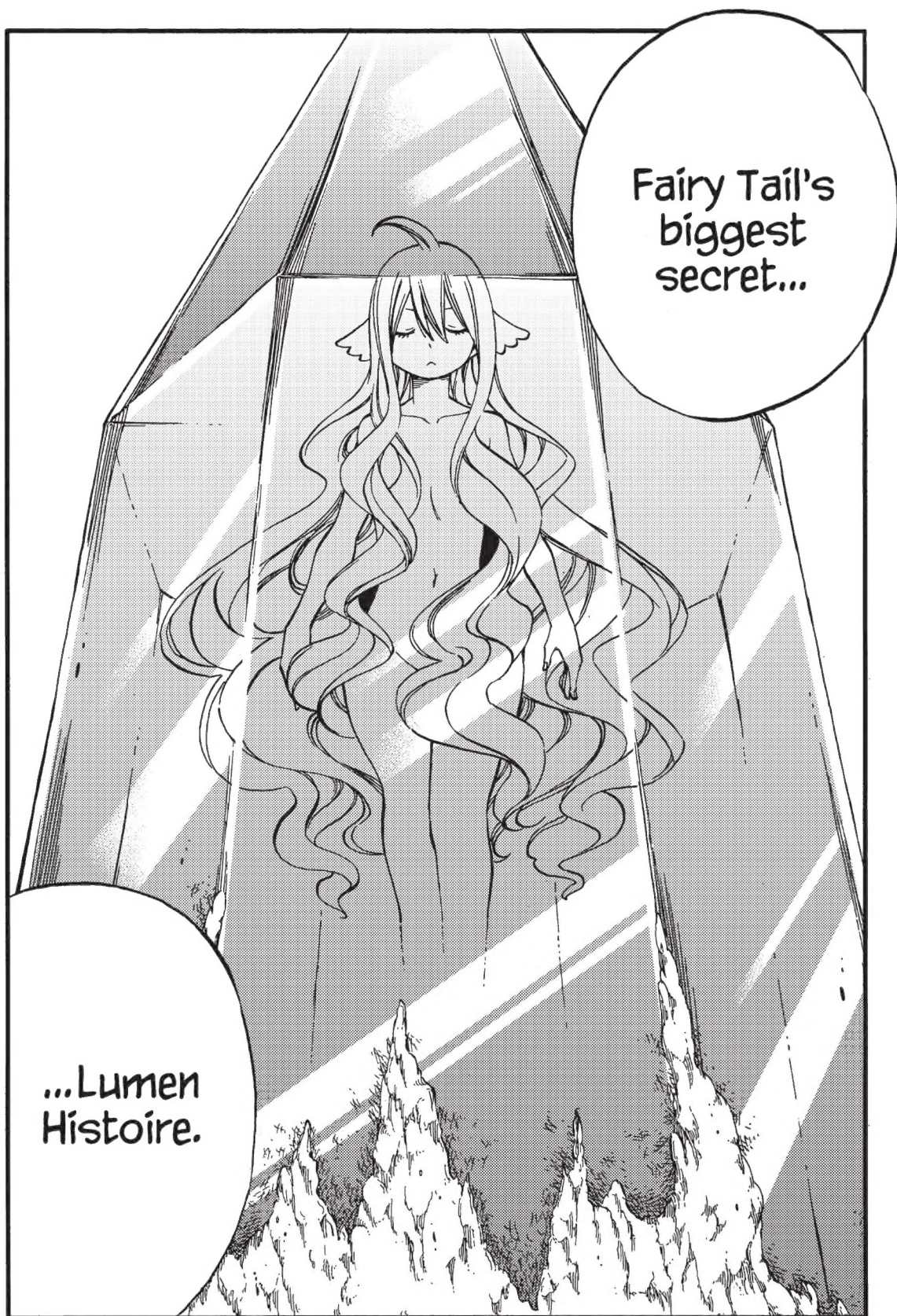
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 439: The Albareth Empire



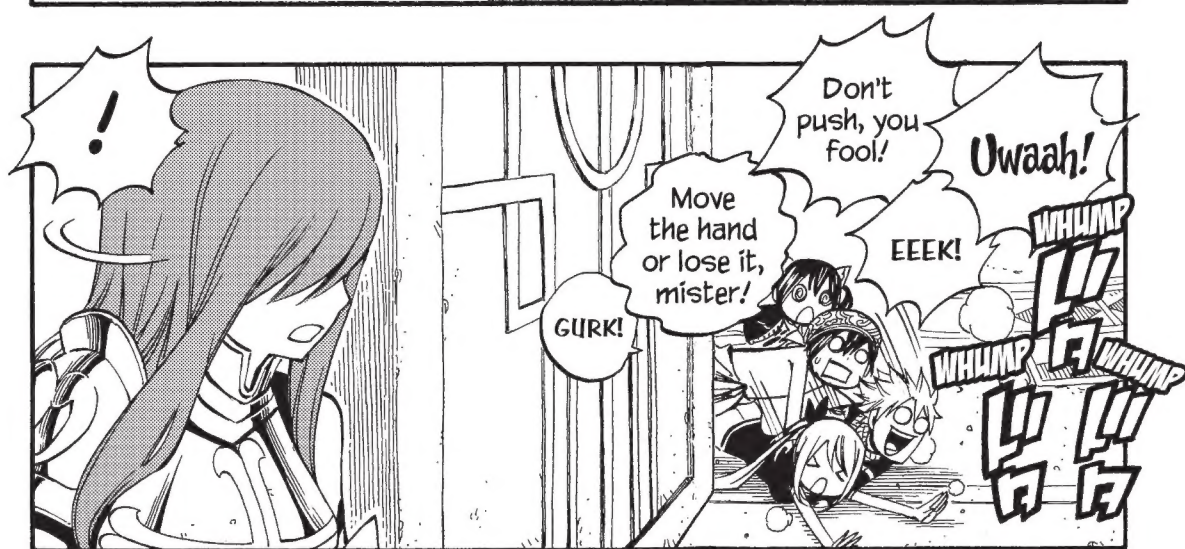


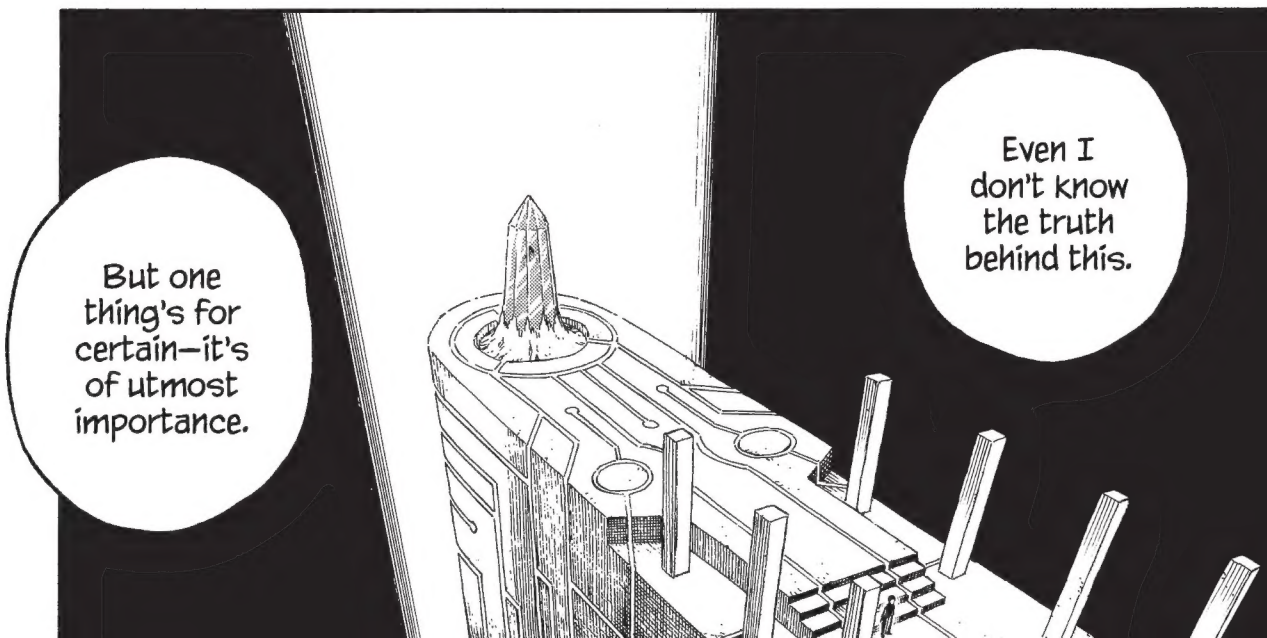
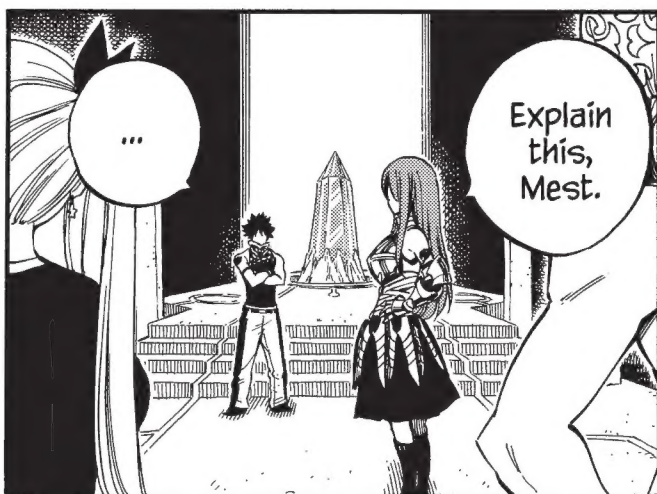


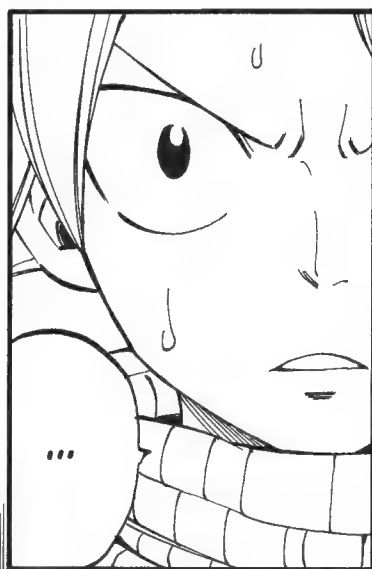
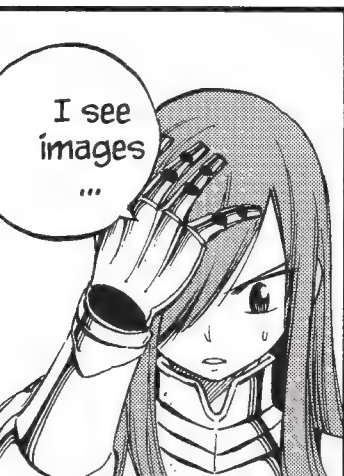


Fairy Tail's
biggest
secret...

...Lumen
Histoire.





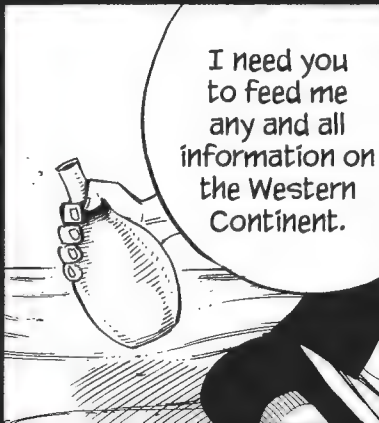




That's right.
You're the
only one who
can.



Infiltrate the
Council?



I need you
to feed me
any and all
information on
the Western
Continent.



It isn't
that kind of
mission.

So, what am
I supposed
to steal for
you?



What
for?



I just want
you to tell me *all*
that is said and
done concerning
the Western
Continent.

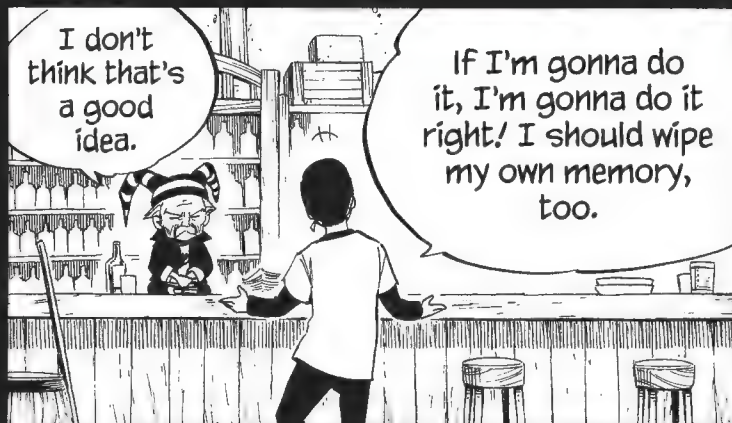
I'm not asking
you to steal
documents or
erase the black
marks on the
guild brats'
records.

You want
me to steal
information?
Same
difference.



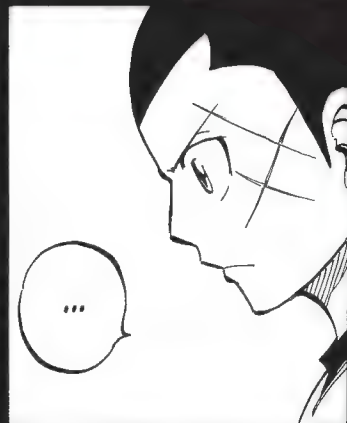
This is
for the
family!

I want you
to do it with
no questions
asked.



I don't
think that's
a good
idea.

If I'm gonna do
it, I'm gonna do it
right! I should wipe
my own memory,
too.

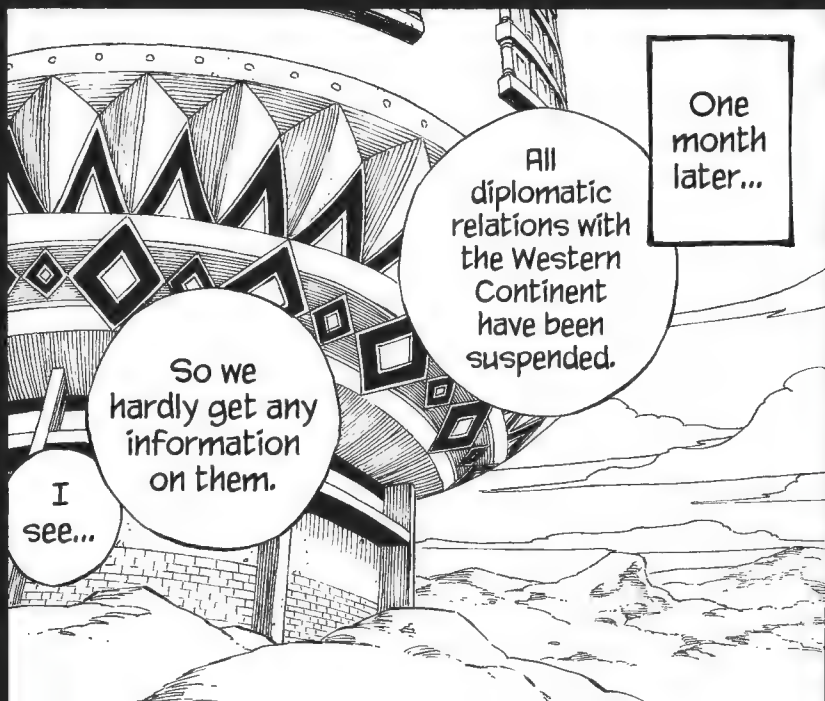


...



Reign
Natsu
in a
bit!

But the
Council is
really hot-
under-the-
collar about
our guild!



I
see...

So we
hardly get any
information
on them.

All
diplomatic
relations with
the Western
Continent
have been
suspended.

One
month
later...

Hey! While I'm doing this, you have to call me Doranbolt.

You're very good at this, Mest.

It's all right... I've fashioned it so all my memories will come back when you remove the spell, Master.

I didn't think you'd actually go and erase your own memory...



Skipping ahead again...

Is it my imagination, or did you call me last month, too?

This is such a pain!

What business does the Fairy Tail master have with me?

And several months after that...

Ohh!

I bet I'll find a mountain of evidence to use against them!

That gives me an idea! Maybe I'll use my magic to infiltrate that guild of troublemakers!

Seems to happen a lot recently.

The Fairy Tail master wants to see *me*?





Yeah.
Sorry
about
that.

Hey!

I want to
know all
their evil
plots and
schemes!

I can't
wait to
find out
what
they're
up to!

So I
joined
you on
Sirius
Island.



First, I'll
alter Makarov's
memories and
make him think I'm
a guild member!
I'll have them call
me "Mest!"

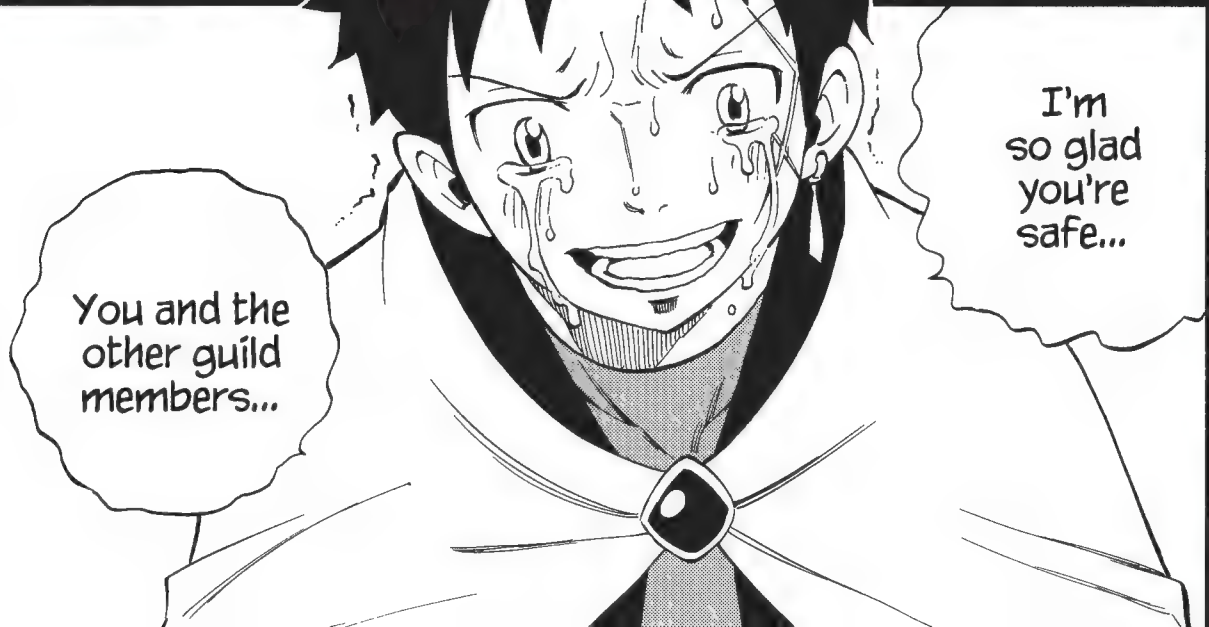


Long time,
no see.

...

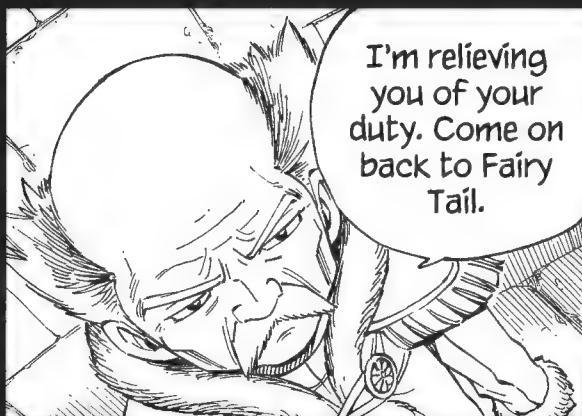


And
seven
years
later...

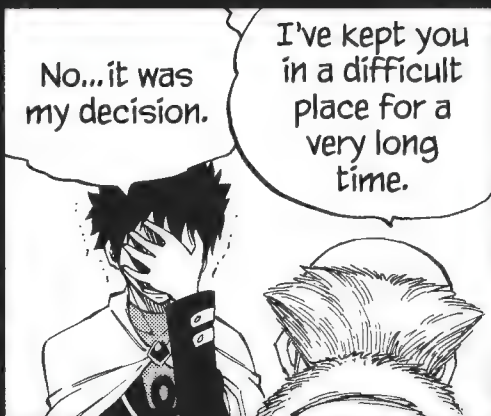


You and the
other guild
members...

I'm
so glad
you're
safe...



I'm relieving
you of your
duty. Come on
back to Fairy
Tail.



No... it was
my decision.

I've kept you
in a difficult
place for a
very long
time.



...some
of the
information
you wanted.

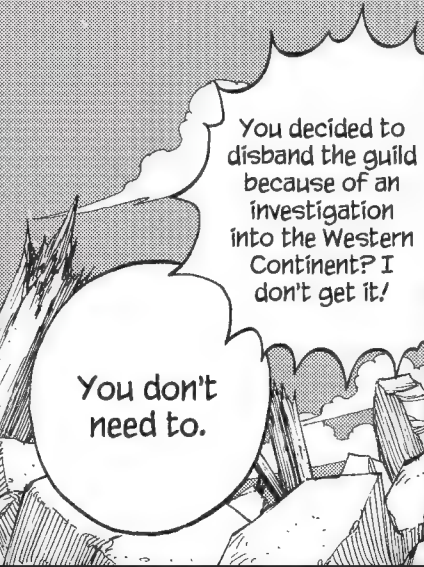
No... I'm
so close to
getting...

70 SNIFF
7" SNIFF

Fairy Tail
will be
disbanded.

Then,
one year
ago, right
after the
battle with
Tartaros...





You decided to disband the guild because of an investigation into the Western Continent? I don't get it!


You don't need to.

This is the only way to protect our family.

From the information you brought me, and what I've learned in my own investigations, I know there's no other choice.

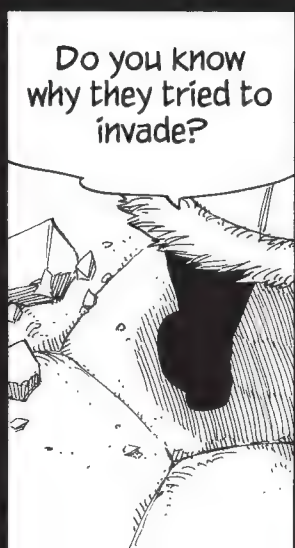


Huh?




That country is just too dangerous!

It's because of the Albareth Empire on the Western Continent...



Do you know why they tried to invade?

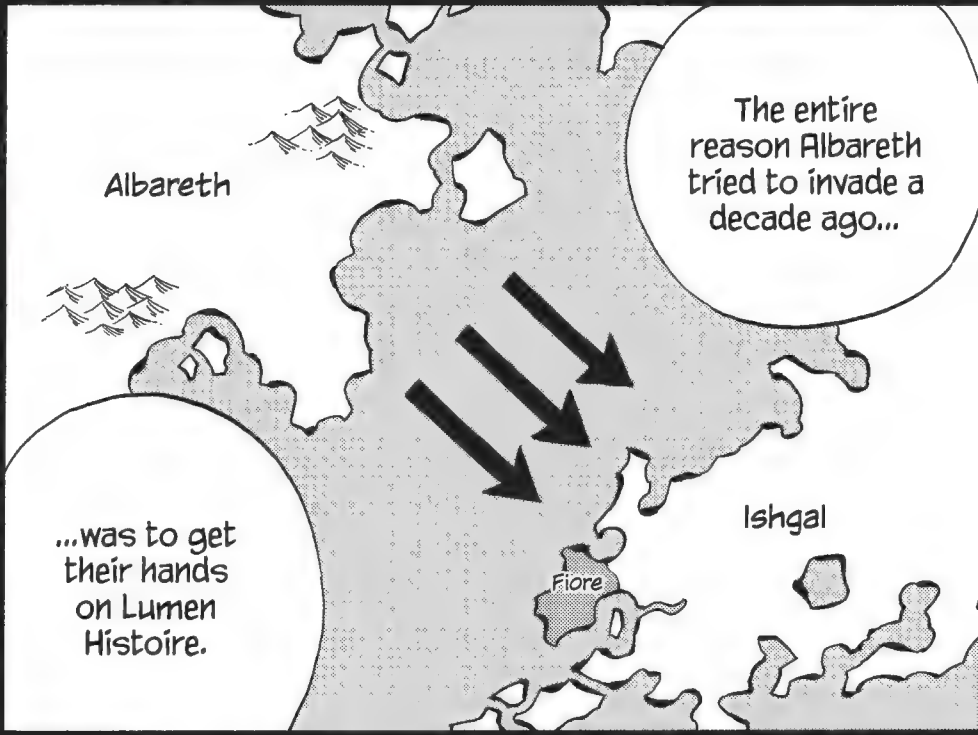
I know that it tried to invade this continent ten years ago, but it failed!



What is *that* supposed to mean?!



Lumen
Histoire.



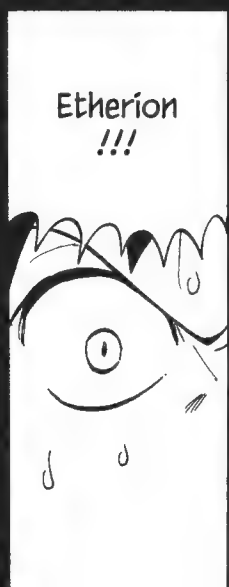
The entire
reason Albareth
tried to invade a
decade ago...

...was to get
their hands
on Lumen
Histoire.

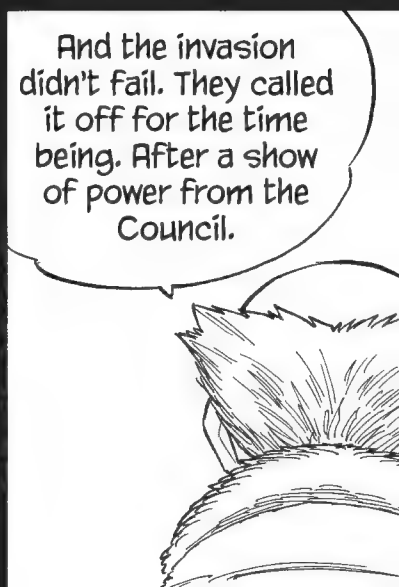


The Face
weapon that was
just brought to light
was also something
the Council
was keeping in
reserve.


Even Albareth
needed to
exercise caution
when we had those
weapons at our
disposal.



Etherion
!!!



And the invasion
didn't fail. They called
it off for the time
being. After a show
of power from the
Council.

A black and white manga panel showing two men standing in a city of rubble. The man on the left is wearing a dark coat with a high collar, and the man on the right is wearing a light-colored coat with a high collar and a hat.

That Ishgal
has no way to
stop Albareth
anymore.

Do
you see
what this
means?

And
neither
Face nor
Etherion
exists
anymore.

A black and white manga panel showing a man standing on a pile of rubble. He is wearing a dark coat with a high collar and a hat.

But the
Council has
been wiped
out.

Right.

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of a man's face. He has a serious expression and is looking towards the right.

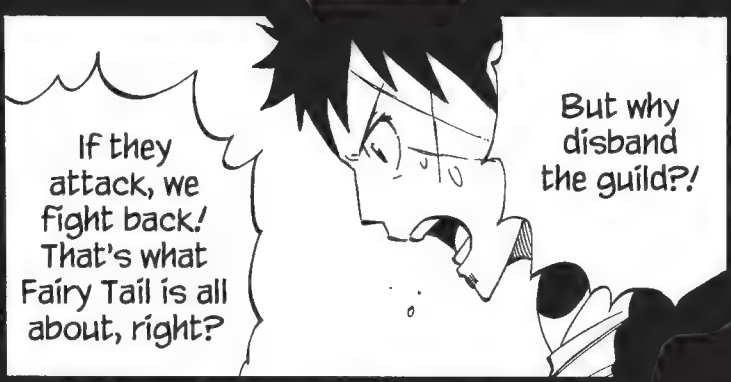
They will
attempt
another
invasion.

A black and white manga panel showing a man standing on a pile of rubble. He is wearing a dark coat with a high collar and a hat.


We can't.
So all that's
left is to
disband.

Wha—
...?!

If they
attack, we
fight back!
That's what
Fairy Tail is all
about, right?

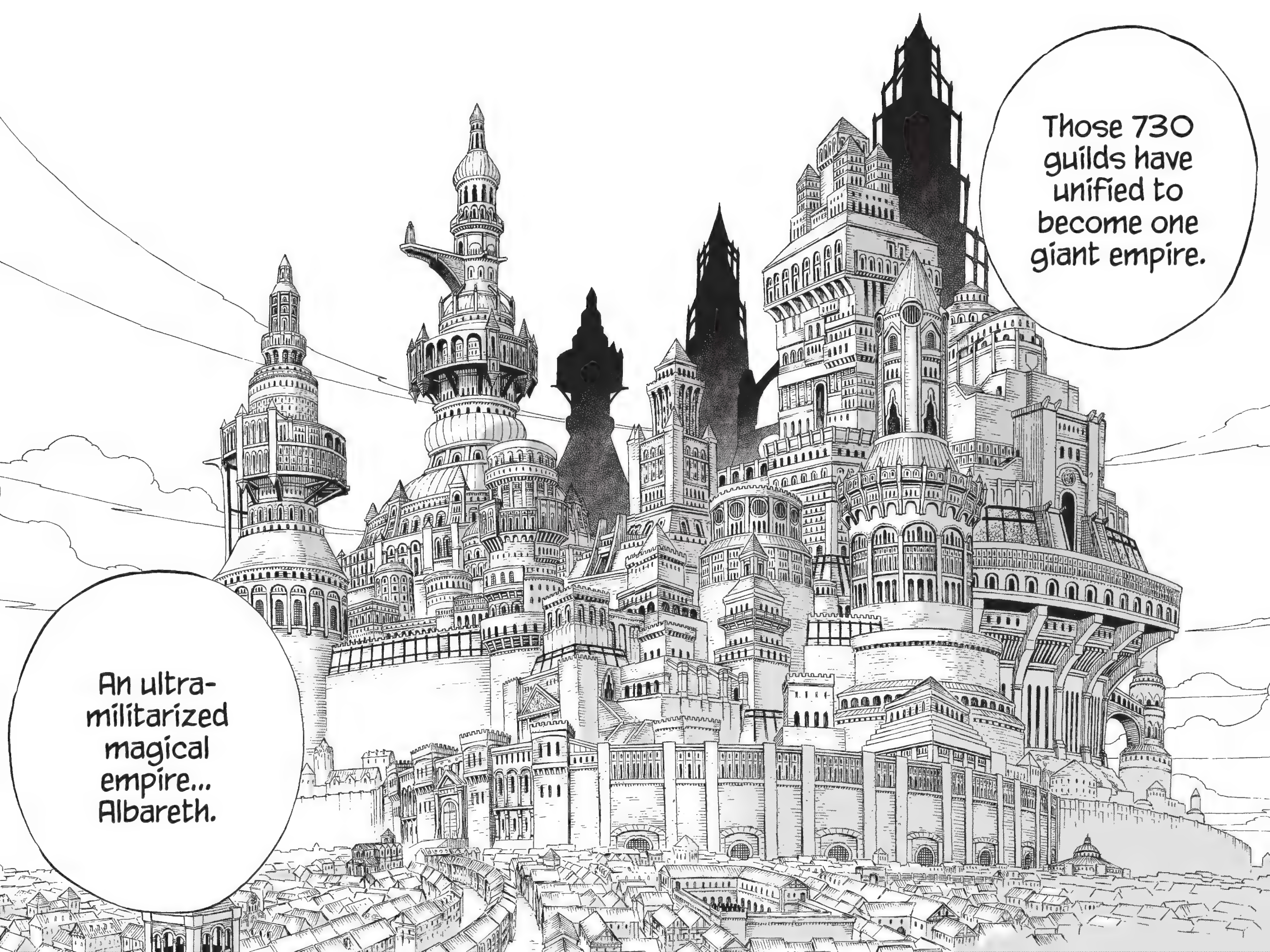
A black and white manga panel showing a man's face in profile. He is looking towards the left with a serious expression.

But why
disband
the guild?!

A black and white manga panel showing a large, dark, swirling mass, possibly a giant or a massive attack.

On the Western
Continent, there
are some 730
guilds, counting
both official and
dark guilds.

There are about
500 guilds in
Ishgal, including
Fairy Tail.



Those 730
guilds have
unified to
become one
giant empire.

An ultra-
militarized
magical
empire...
Albareth.





*That
should
buy us
some
time.*

I'm
going to play
our trump card.
I'll threaten to set
off Lumen Histoire
if they invade this
continent.


If anything were to
happen to me, and the
guild were still around,
then the kids would be
targeted.

Wait
just one
minute...

If the
Council
can reform
during that
time...

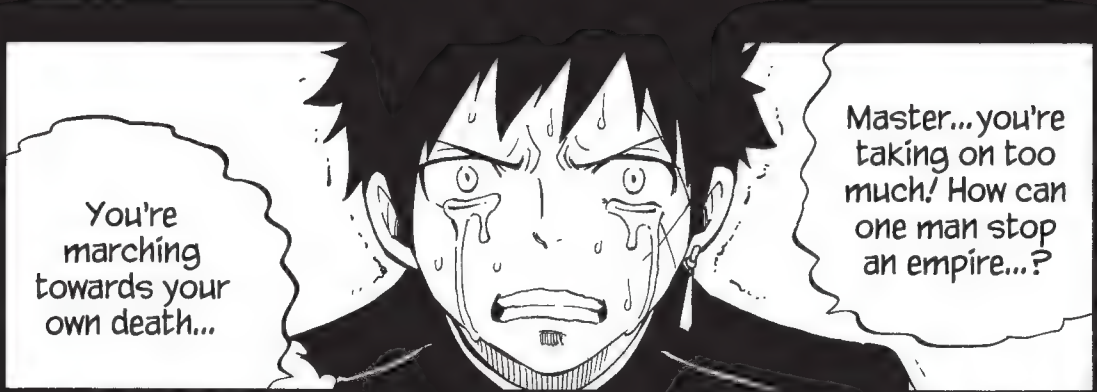
This is
just one
gamble.

KIENCH



**We have
to disband to
save the family!
That means more
than outward
appearances or
guild history!!!!**


**That
must
never
happen
!!!!**



A black and white manga panel showing a young man with spiky hair, wide eyes, and tears streaming down his face. He has a desperate expression. Two adults are partially visible behind him, one on each side, looking at him with stern expressions. The background is dark.

You're
marching
towards your
own death...

Master...you're
taking on too
much! How can
one man stop
an empire...?



A large, close-up black and white illustration of an elderly man with a stern, angry expression. He has a high forehead, a prominent nose, and a thick, spiky beard. His eyes are narrowed, and his mouth is set in a firm line. The background is plain white.

**I'm taking
responsibility
for my family's
life!!!!**

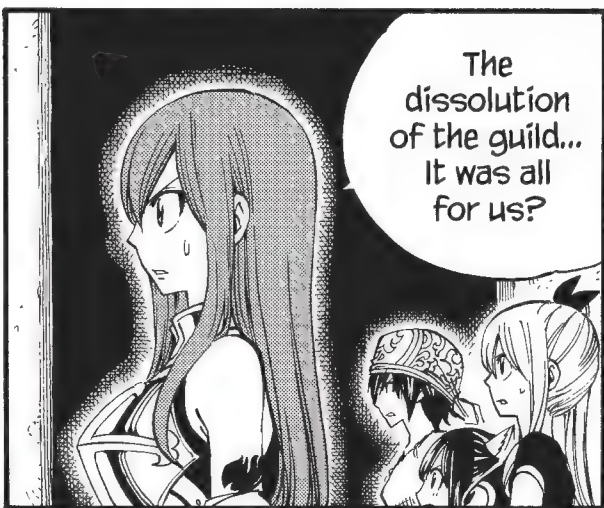
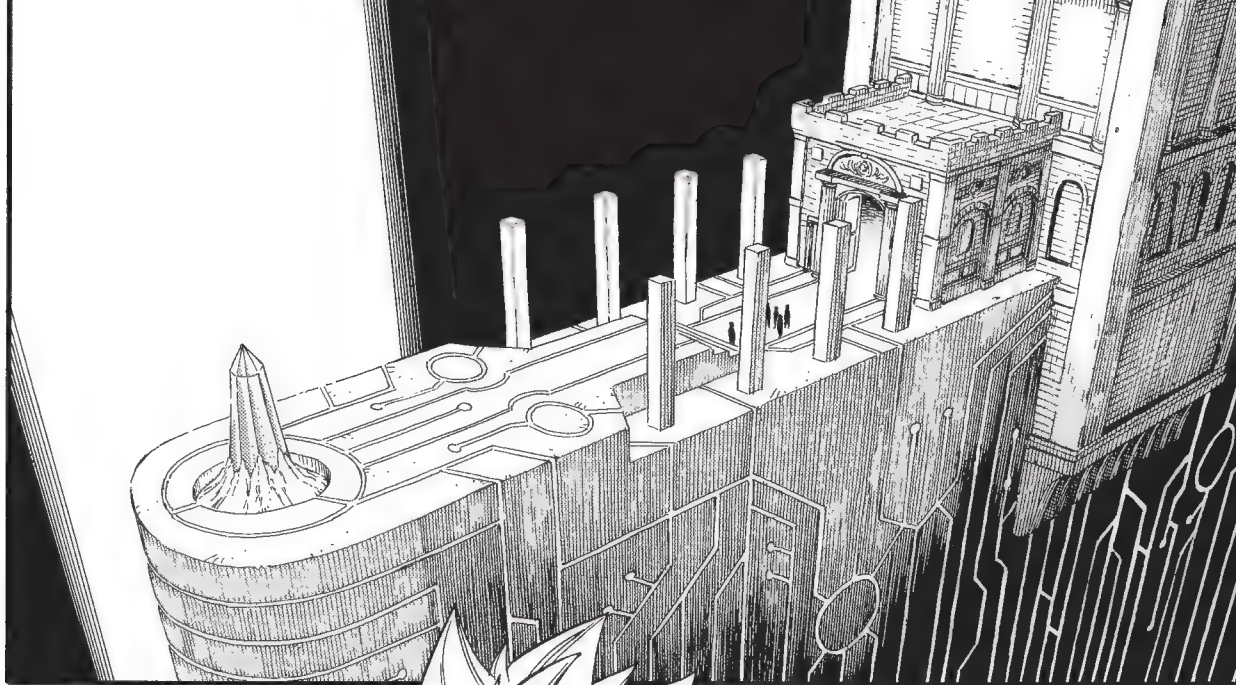
**That's
what a
father does,
right?!**

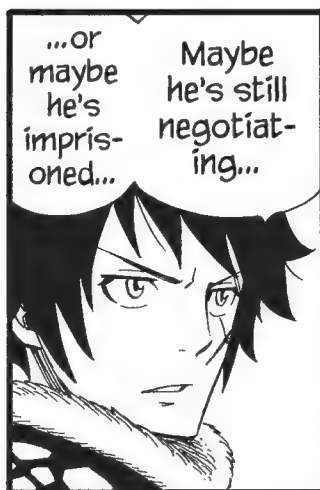
FAIRY TAIL

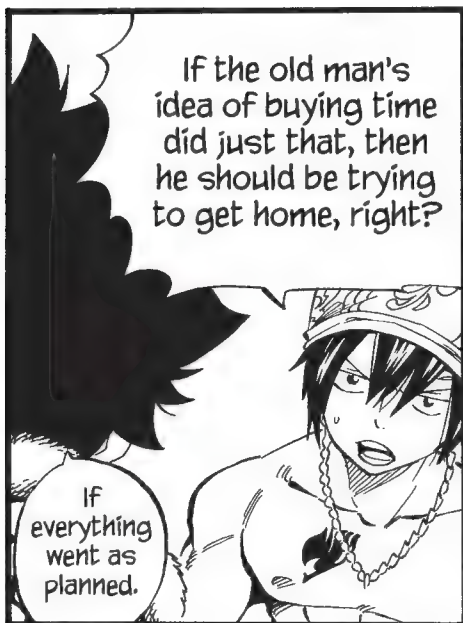
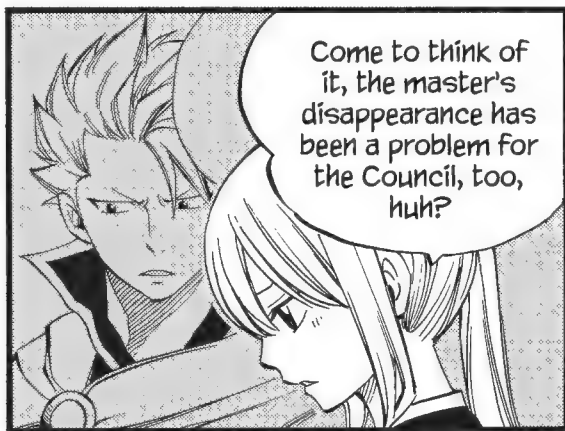
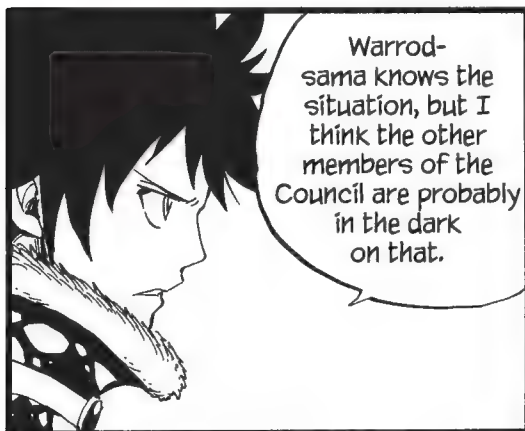
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 440: God Serena

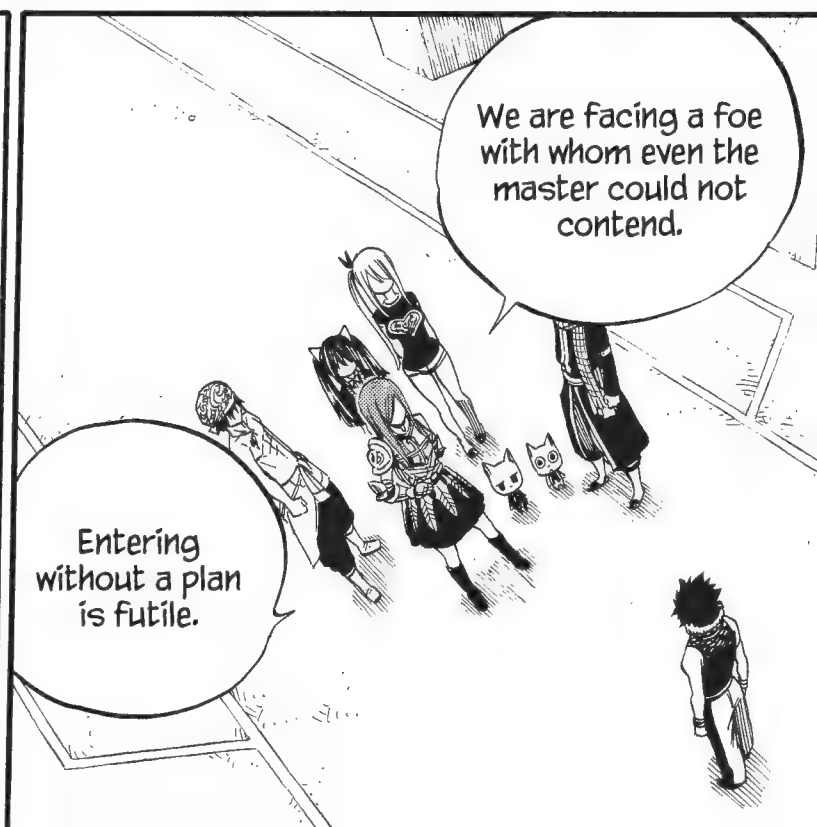
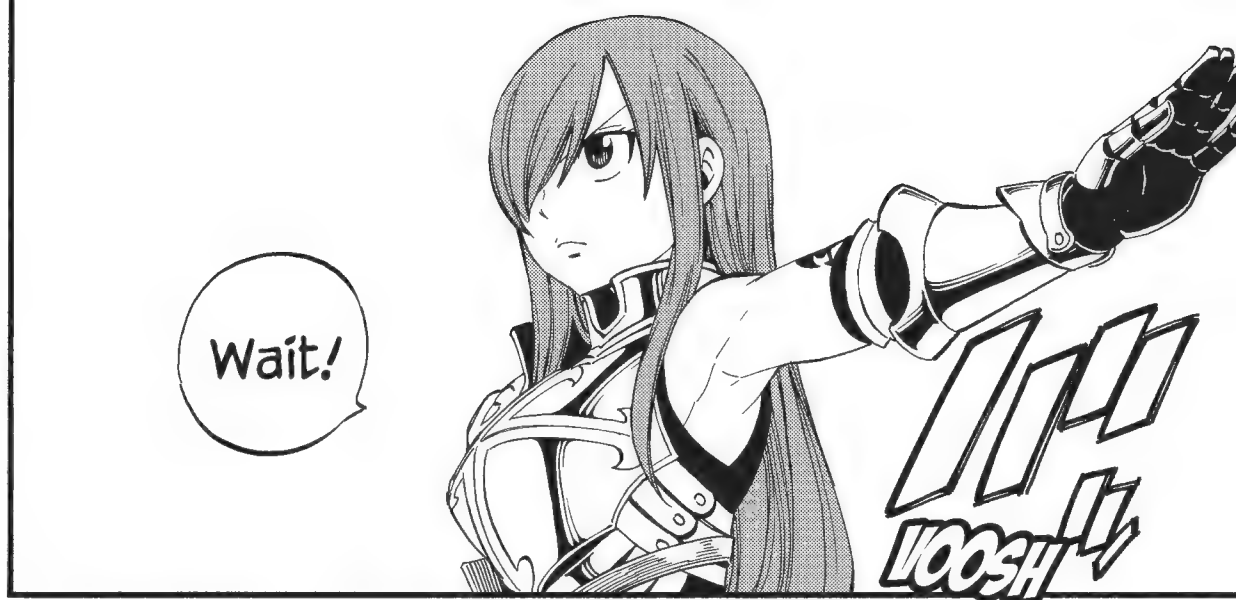














...Don't
you dare
throw that
away.

The master
put his life on
the line to buy
time. That time
was his gift
to us...



Those are my
thoughts as the
seventh guild
master.

I wish to
see smiles
on everyone's
faces once
more.

We will rebuild the
guild hall, begin
taking jobs
again, and fully
revive Fairy Tail.



How-
ever...

...my
thoughts as
an individual
member of
the guild are
different.



Hey!
You don't
mean...

Erza-
san...



**We must
rescue the
master!!!!**

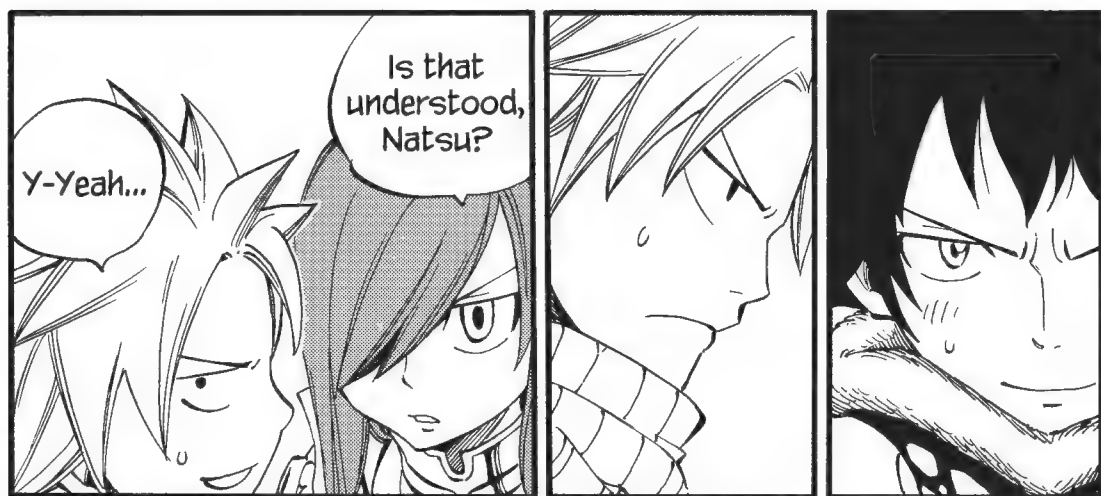
**Therefore,
we will take
action—just
those of us
gathered
here.**



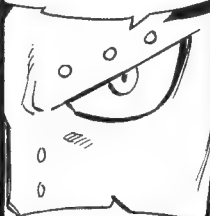
**And
escape
safely.**

**We must
infiltrate
the Albareth
Empire, and
rescue the
master...**

**The
smaller our
numbers,
the better.**



Keep the numbers low for stealth? Makes sense.

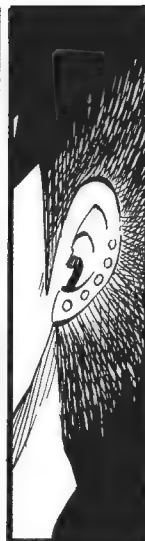


If that's the way, then we better take a different route.




Humph! Tryin' to slip out, huh?

What is it, Gajeel?




What have you done?! Gray-sama!

AGGH!



I swallowed him up with my liquor! HYAH HYAH HYAH!



Cana-san, have you seen Gray-sama?

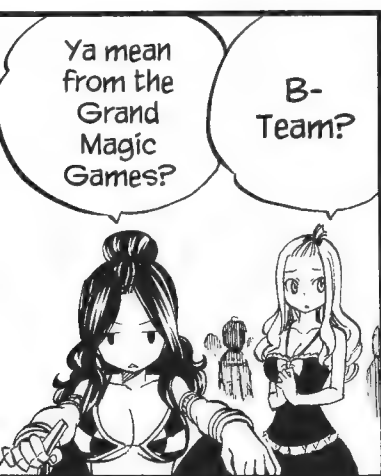
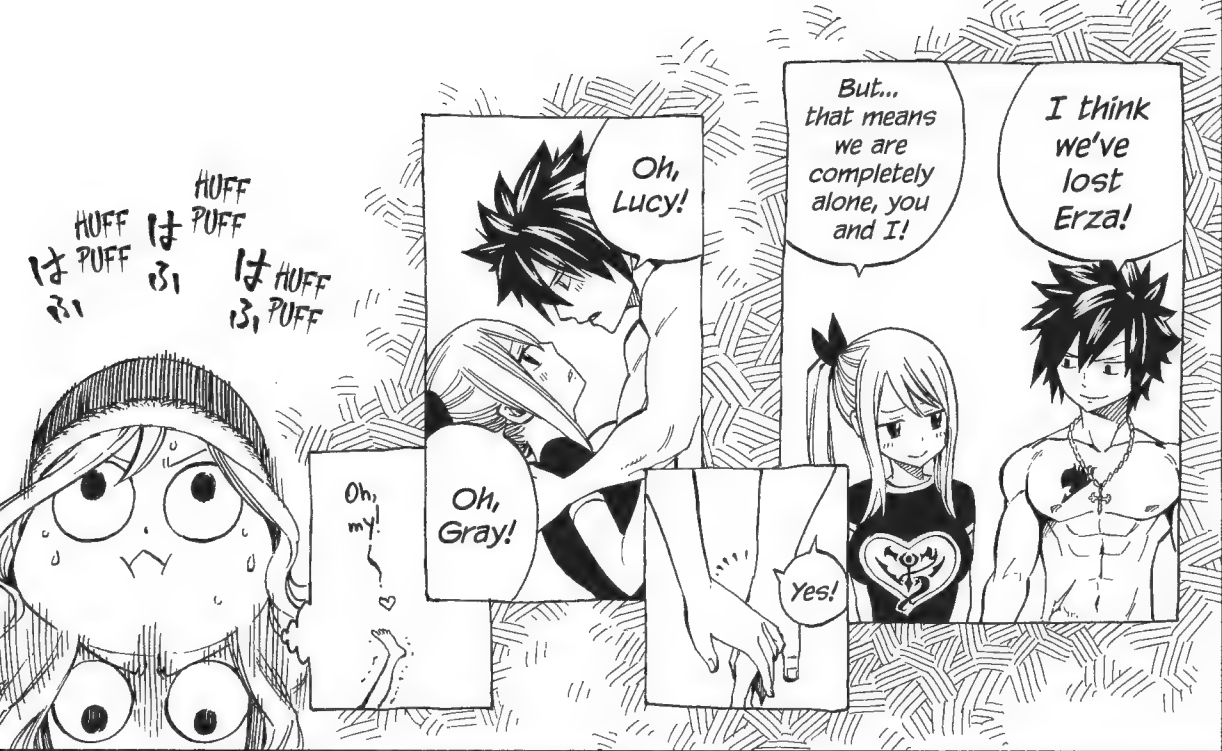


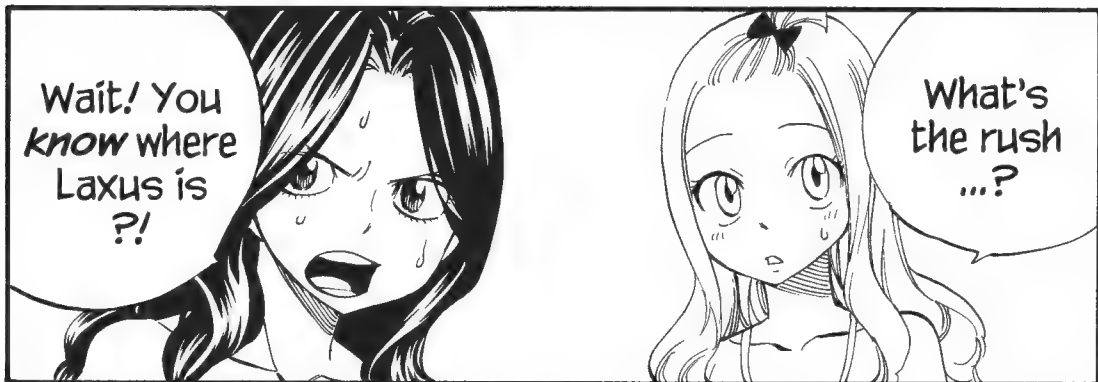
Not... Lucy... again...!

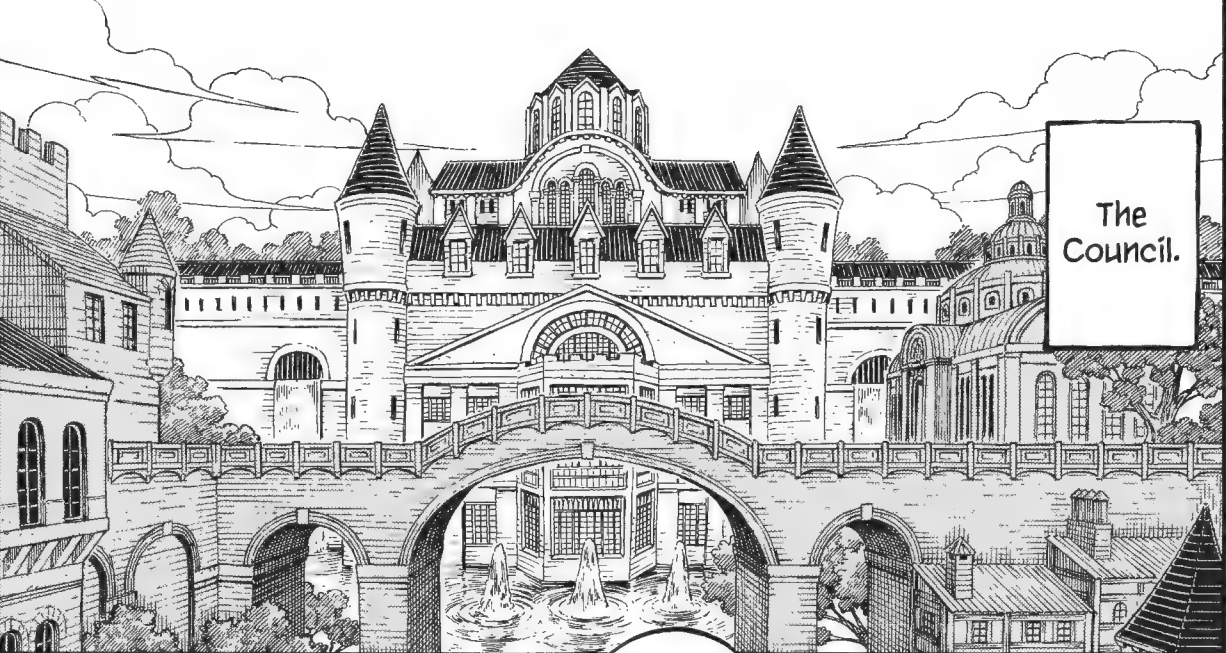


I saw him sneaking after Erza a little while ago.

He was with Natsu, Lucy, and some others...







The
Council.

It was wise of you to select Erza as master. My compliments.

Hm! All the paperwork appears to be in order!

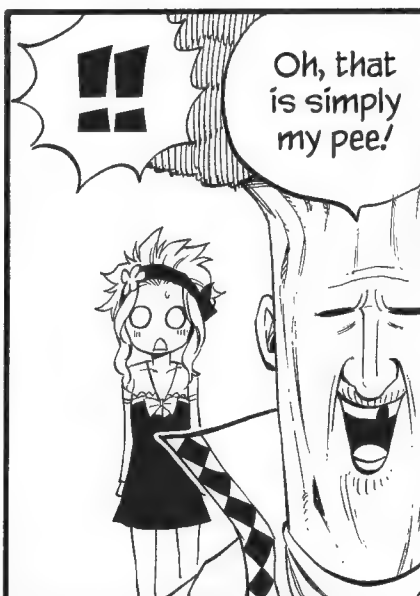
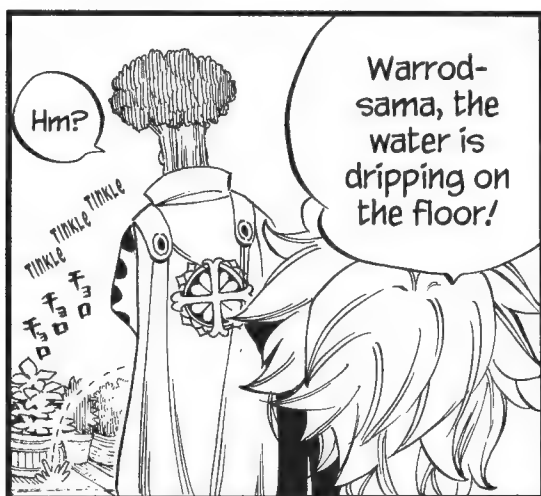
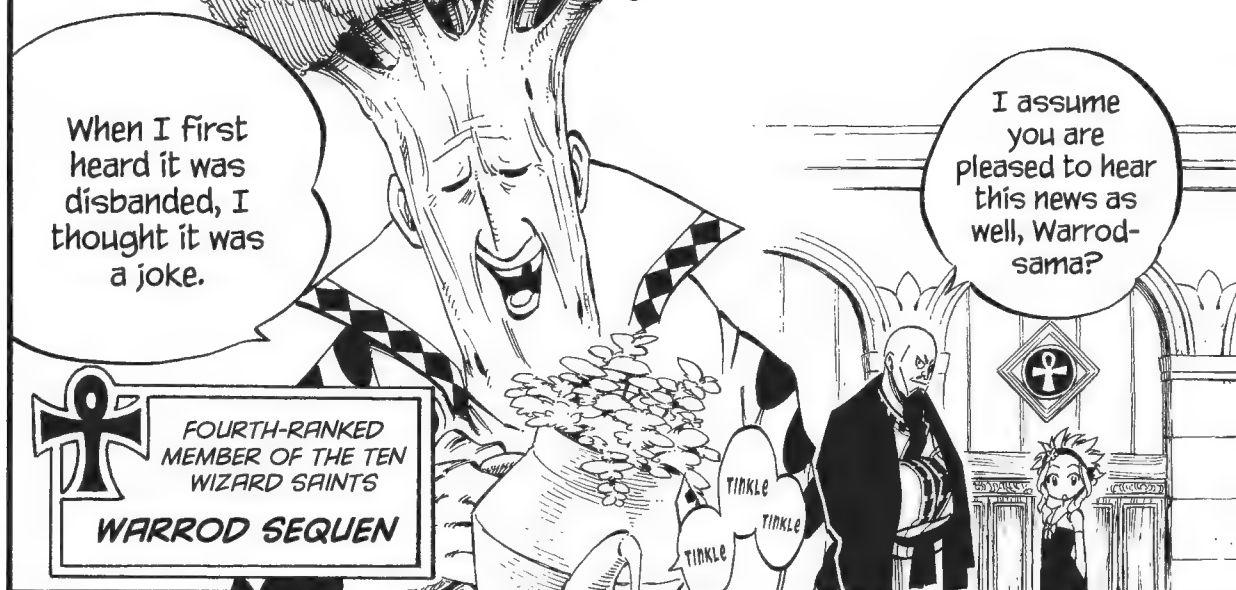
 FIFTH-RANKED MEMBER OF THE TEN WIZARD SAINTS
JURA NEEKIS

However, Levy-dono, you are such an efficient worker. The Council will feel the loss.

Heh heh! Sorry!

That makes Fairy Tail's revival official, right?

Hm! I hope you find Master Makarov soon.



Dammit!

When ya gonna stop playin' the doddering old fool?!



THIRD-RANKED
MEMBER OF THE TEN
WIZARD SAINTS

WOLFHEIM

GRRUM SP

Don't gimme that!



That's a joke, of course...

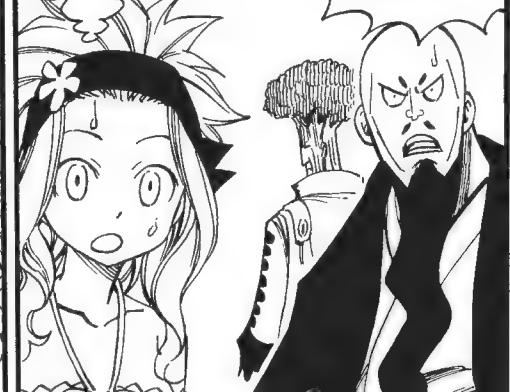
Ah, Wolfheim-kun! I see you have as weird a name as ever.
HA HA HA!

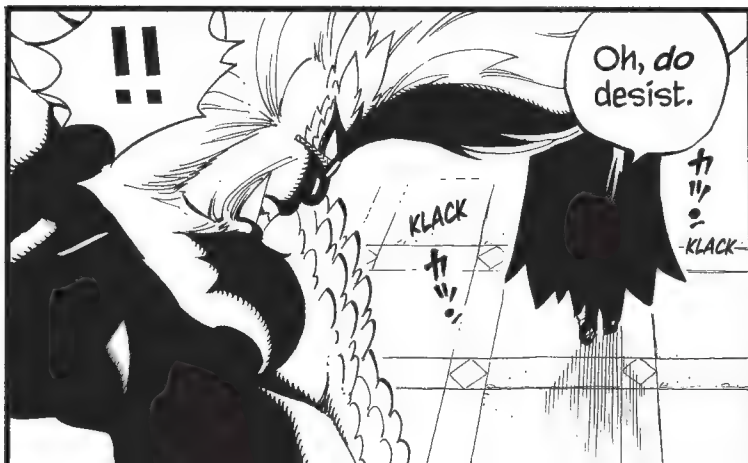


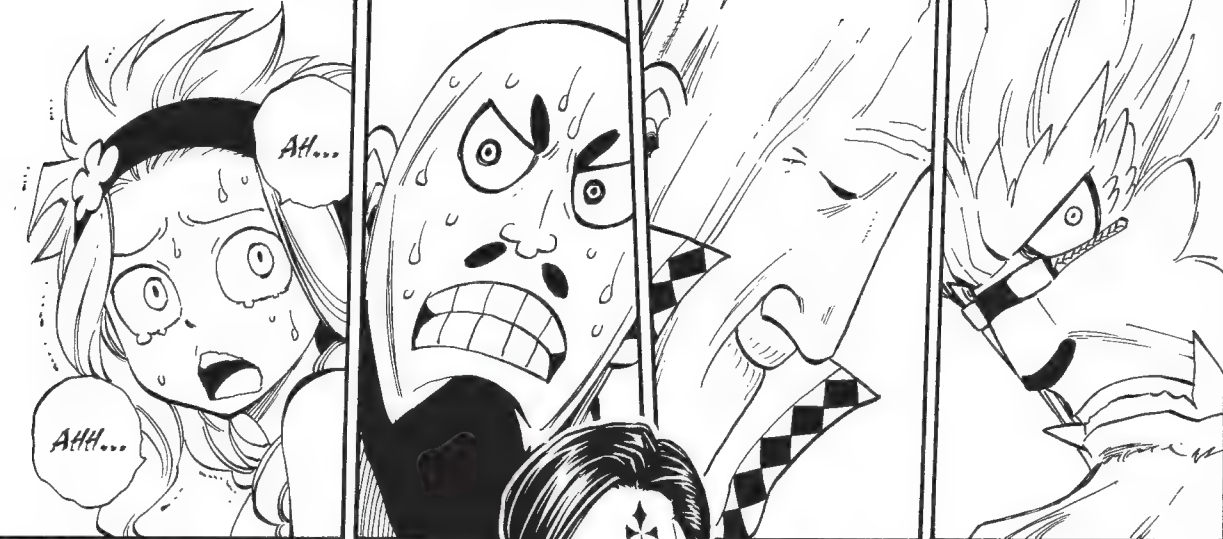
STOMP STOMP STOMP

Wow! One of the Four Emperors of Ishgal!

Wolfheim-sama! I didn't realize you were here as well!







We are
itinerant
wizards no
longer.

Now that we
are Councilors,
we must set
an example
for wizards
everywhere.



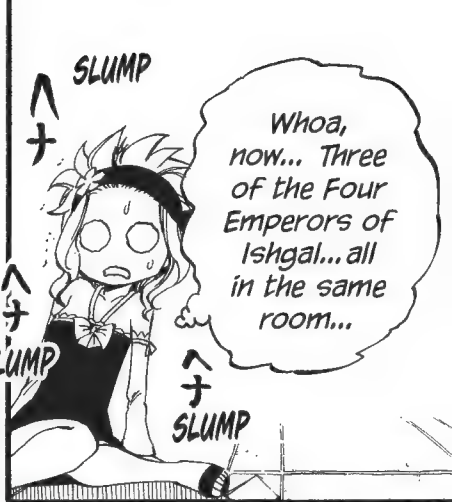
SECOND-RANKED
MEMBER OF THE TEN
WIZARD SAINTS

HYBERION

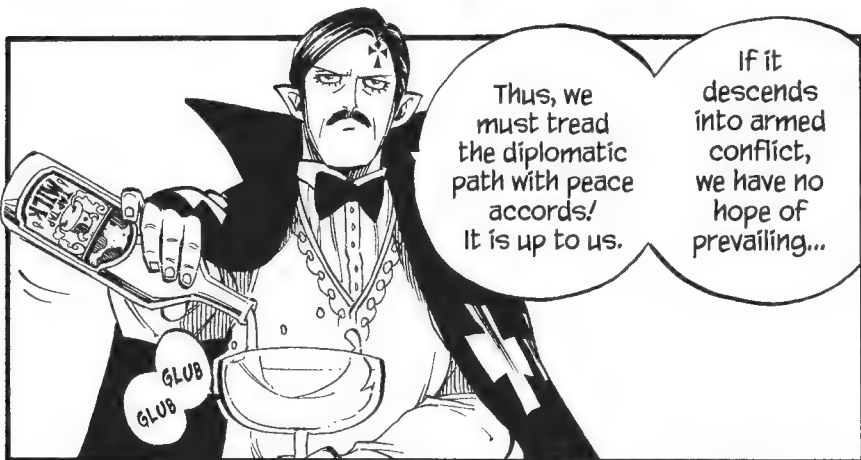


Yes, tensions are elevated. However...

...it is our responsibility to lessen them, is it not?

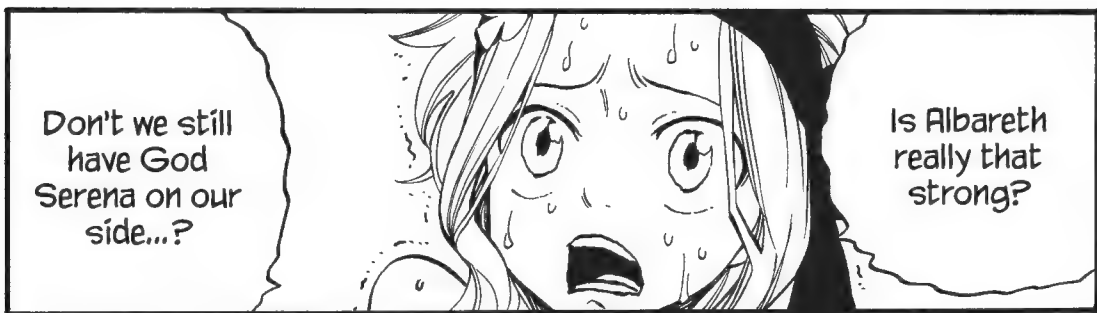


Whoa, now... Three of the Four Emperors of Ishgal... all in the same room...



Thus, we must tread the diplomatic path with peace accords! It is up to us.

If it descends into armed conflict, we have no hope of prevailing...



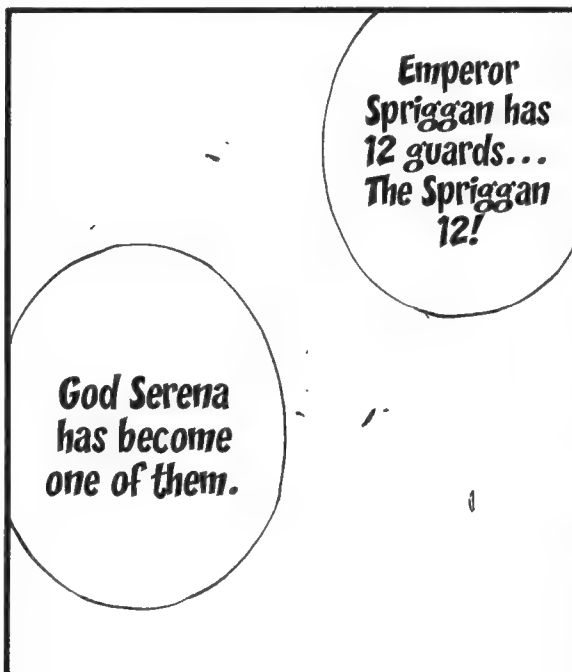
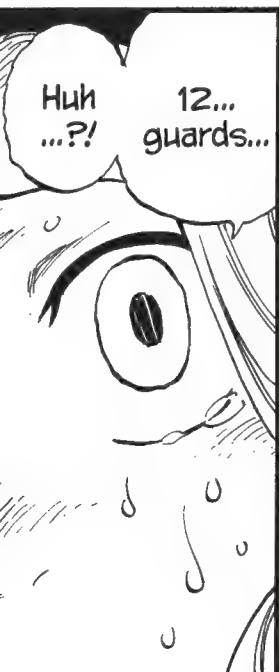
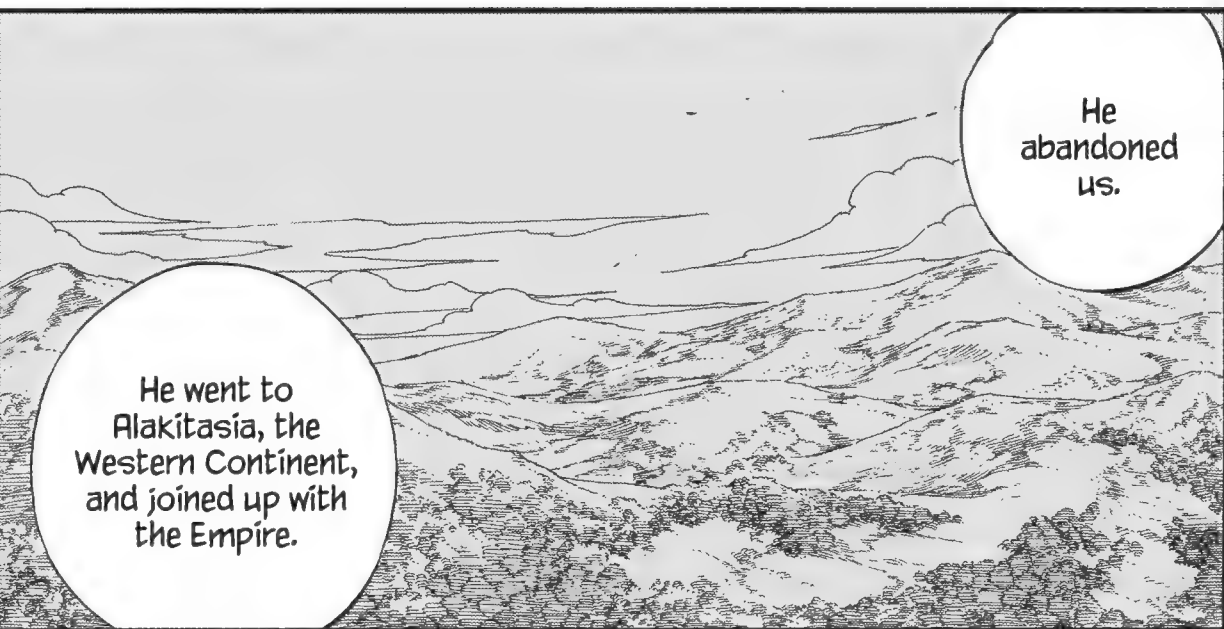
Don't we still have God Serena on our side...?


Is Albareth really that strong?



God Serena...

Ah, he who was once a fellow member of the Four Emperors of Ishgal...he was designated the top-ranked Wizard Saint, a title saved for the greatest wizard on the continent...





Yes...
The greatest
wizard in Ishgal,
and he's now
with...

... eleven
others
of equal
stature!!!!

That is the
might of
the Albareth
Empire!

TOP-RANKED
OF THE TEN
WIZARD SAINTS,
MEMBER OF THE
SPRIGGAN 12

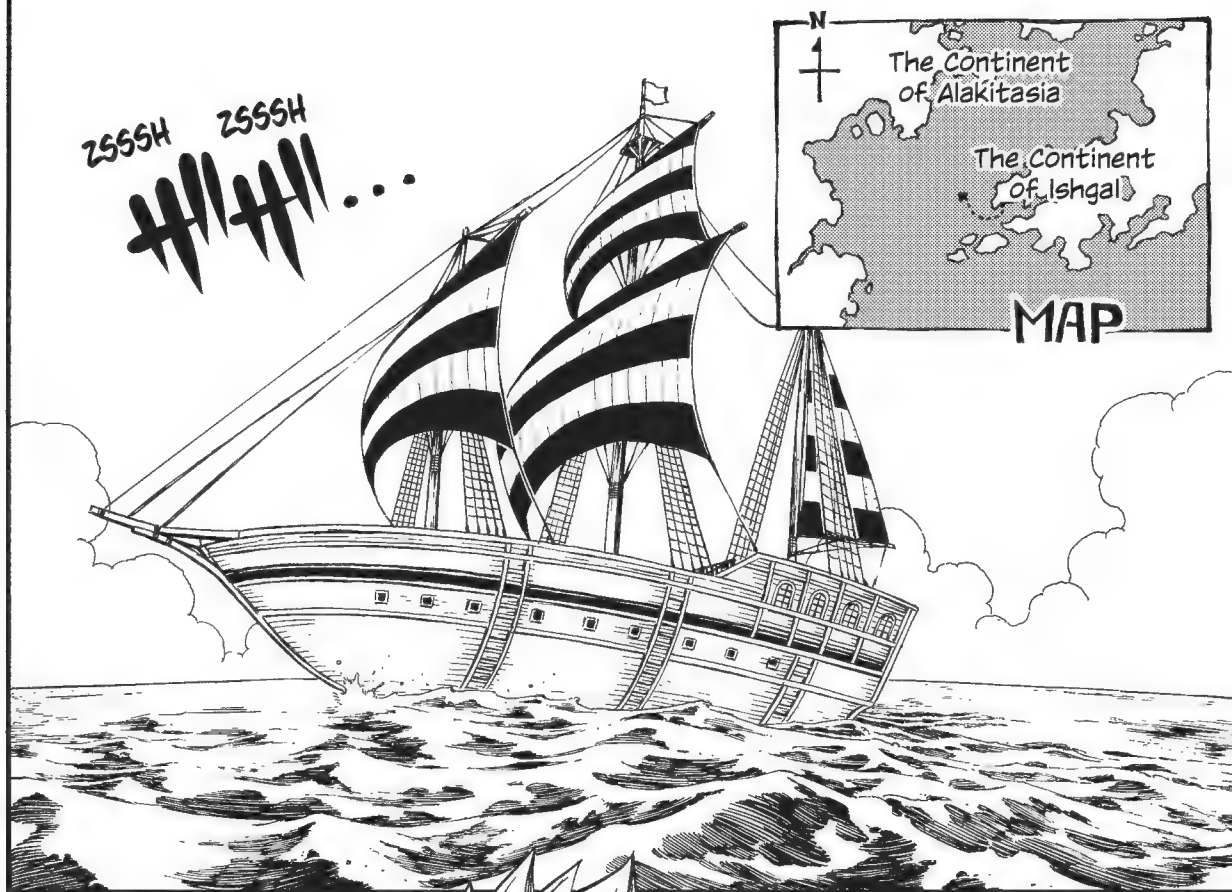
GOD SERENA

FAIRY TAIL

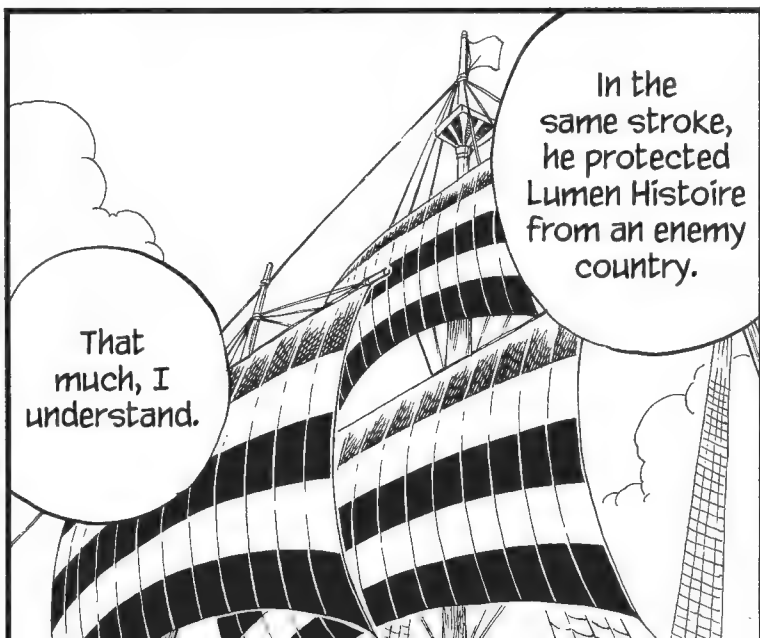
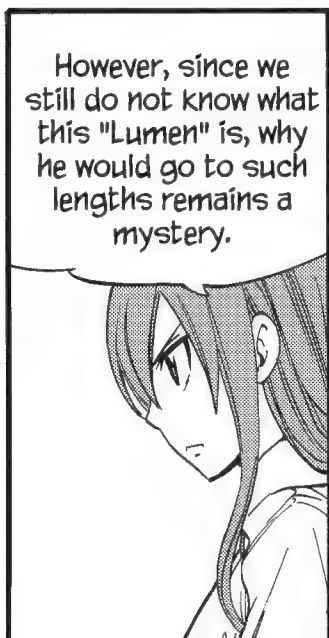
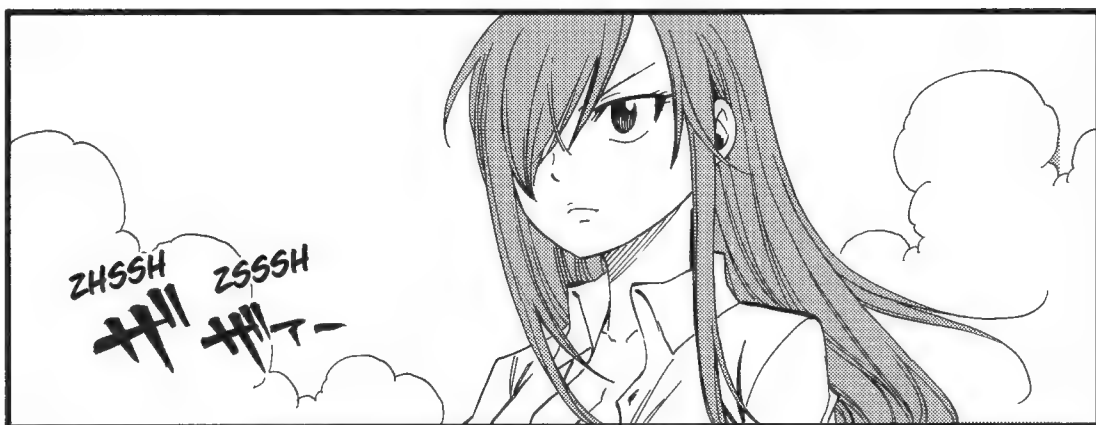
フェアリーテイル

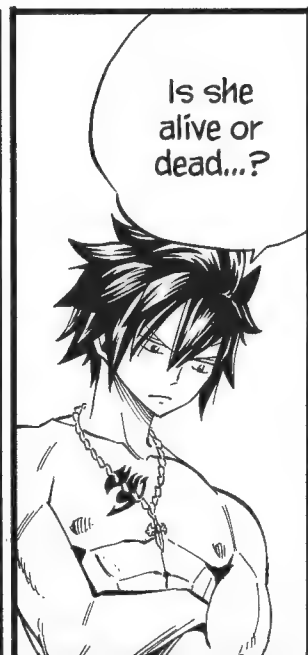
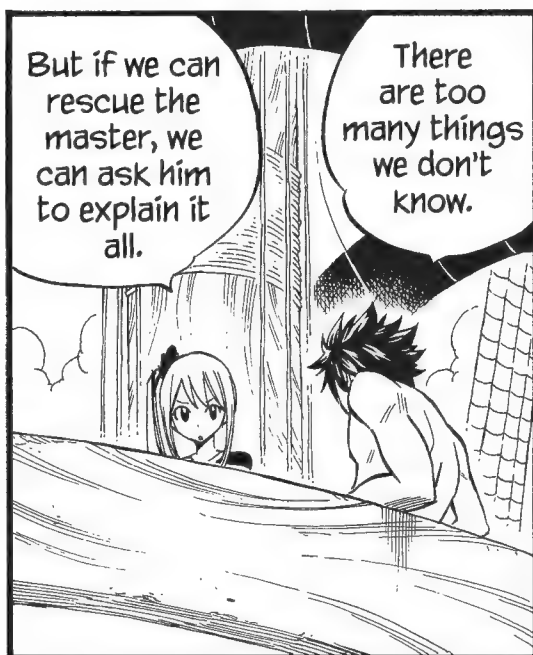
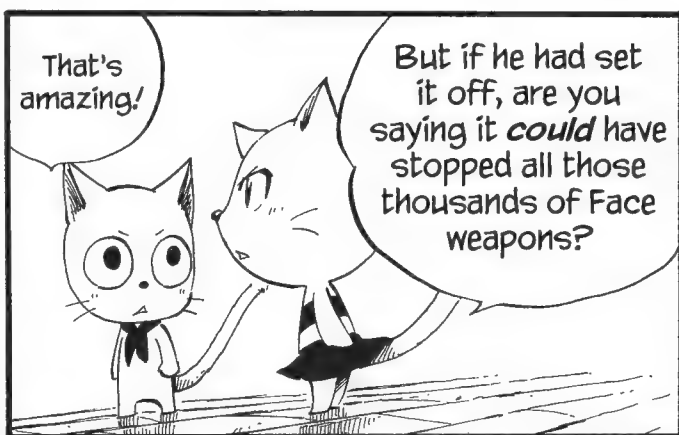
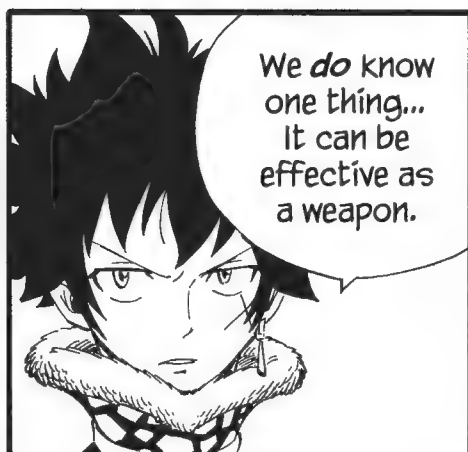
Chapter 441: Caracol Island













Master...



It's a ten-day journey by ship to Alakitasia, and several more to reach the capital from there.

How long before we make landfall at Albareth?



Caracol Island

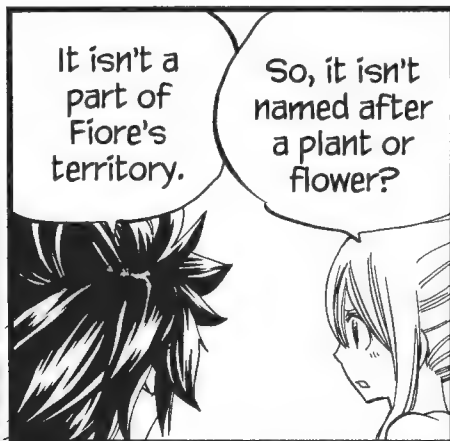
First, we need to replenish our supply of food and other necessities at the town of Caracol, a tourist resort.

I understand your feelings of urgency, but we can't rush this.



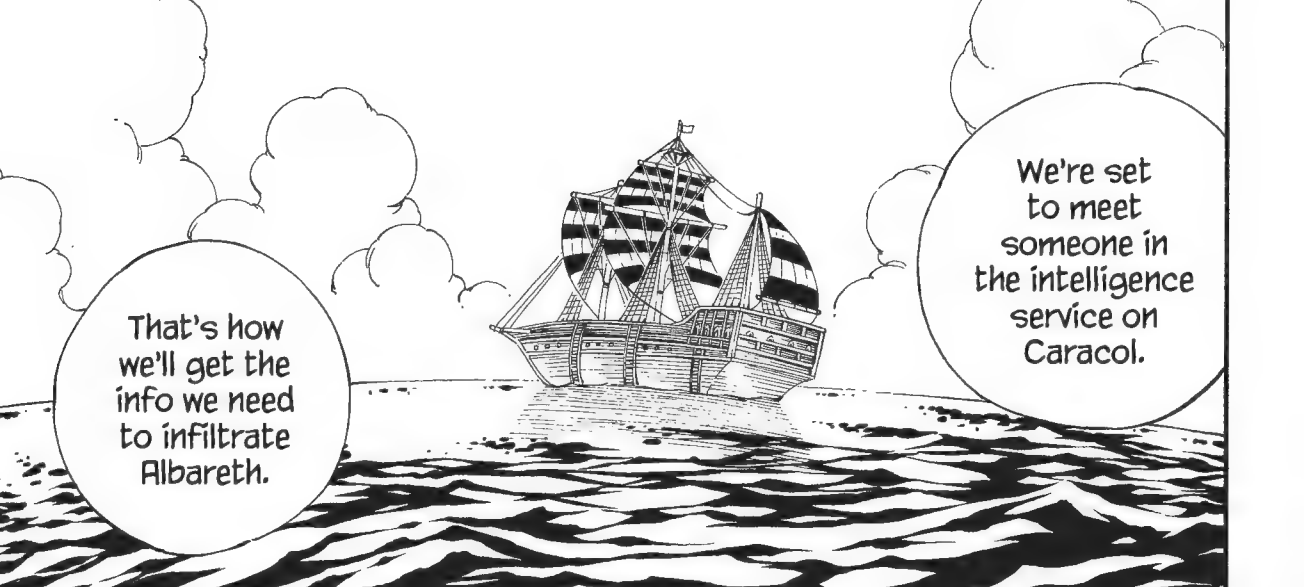
Have we the luxury of side trips?

Like I said, we can't be hasty. Proper preparation is crucial for any infiltration mission.




It isn't a part of Fiore's territory.

So, it isn't named after a plant or flower?



That's how
we'll get the
info we need
to infiltrate
Albareth.

We're set
to meet
someone in
the intelligence
service on
Caracol.



Are you sure
Lexus is here?
This place
ain't exactly
his style.



Heh. We
know you
only came
along to
see Ever!

The
Raijin
Tribe's
here?

From the
information
I've gathered,
seems he's got
his lackeys here,
too.



But I wonder...

...if it was really necessary for us to split up?



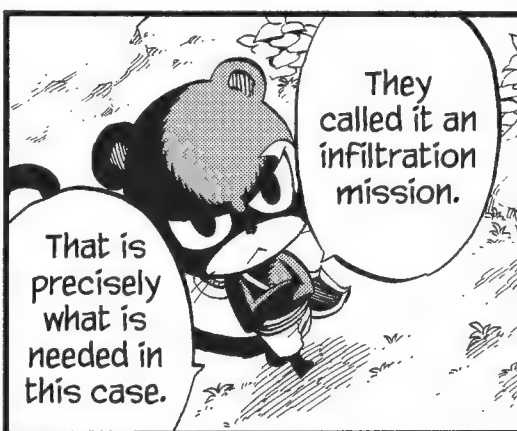
What else can we do? Gray's group already went on ahead of us.

Why must Juvia be on *this* team?



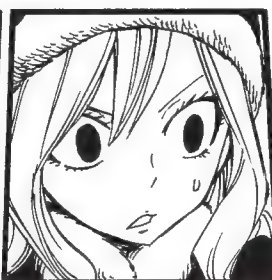
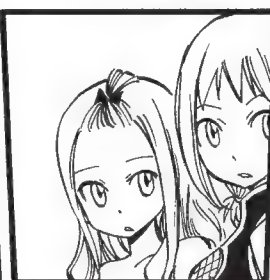
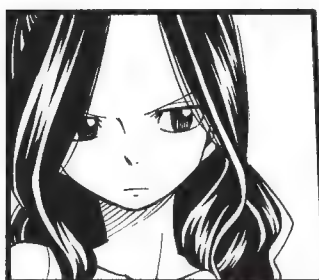
We'd have a zero percent chance of winning.

We're not facing a foe we can beat this time.



They called it an infiltration mission.

That is precisely what is needed in this case.

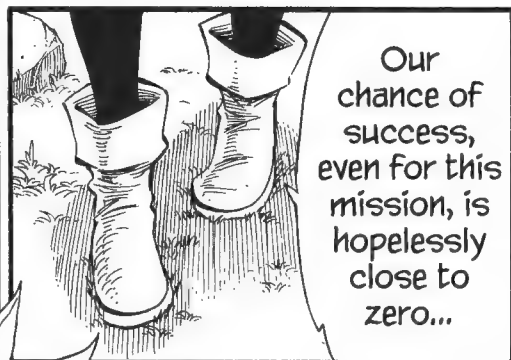


Even sneakin' in is a long shot.



Right?

... That's why
we're taking
different routes—
to improve the
odds even the
tiniest bit.



Our
chance of
success,
even for this
mission, is
hopelessly
close to
zero...



Honestly!

Leaving me
behind like
that was just
plain rude!



GRR



Huh? Oh.
Yer so tiny,
I thought I
already packed
you in my bag.



Juvia has
no such
interest...

If yer lonely,
I can show
ya some
affection!



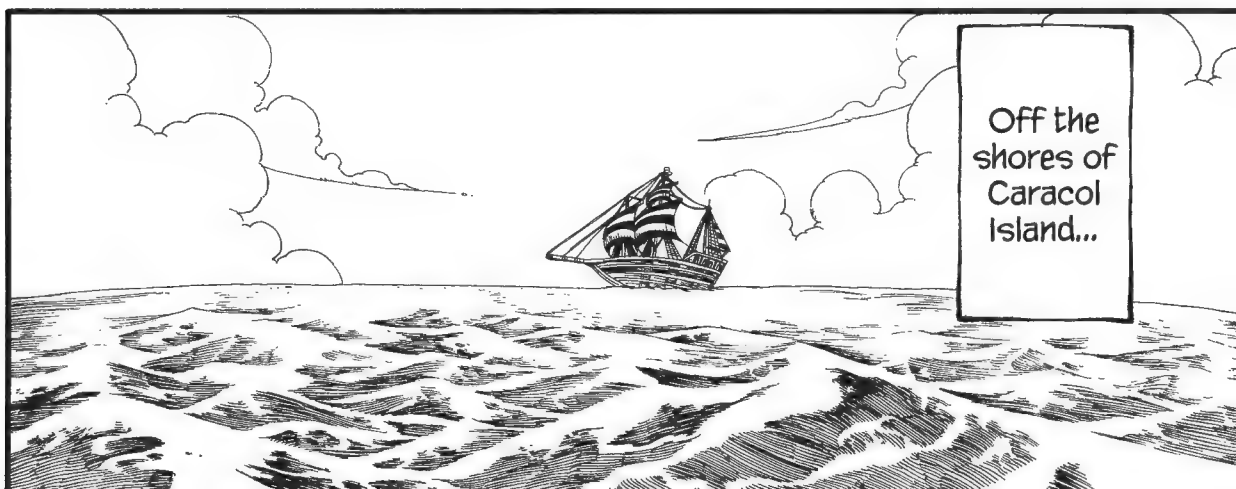
Outward
displays of
affection...

YOU
DUMMY!
DUMMY,
DUMMY!!



But, just so
you all know...
The enemy this
time is seriously
dangerous.

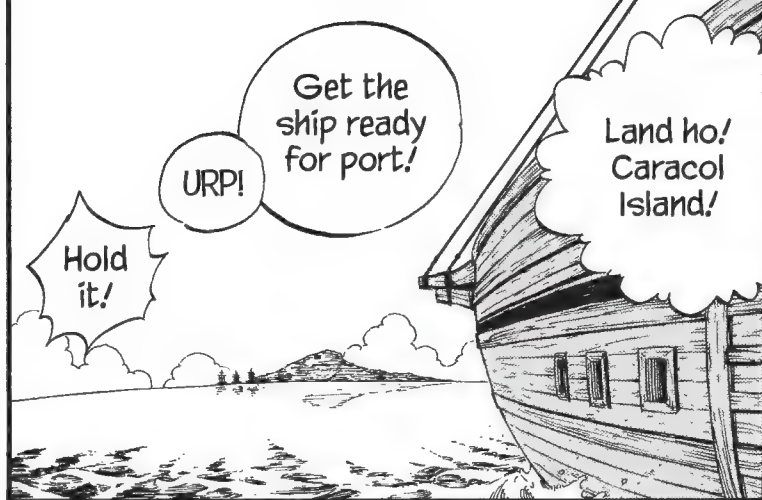
I don't
want *anybody*
even *thinking*
of fighting
them!!



Off the
shores of
Caracol
Island...



Those ships!
What are they?



Get the
ship ready
for port!

Land ho!
Caracol
Island!

URP!

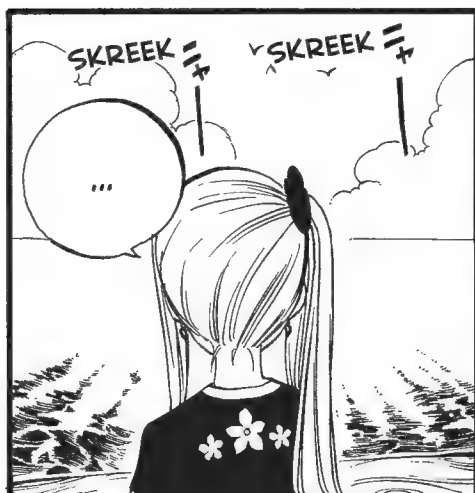
Hold
it!

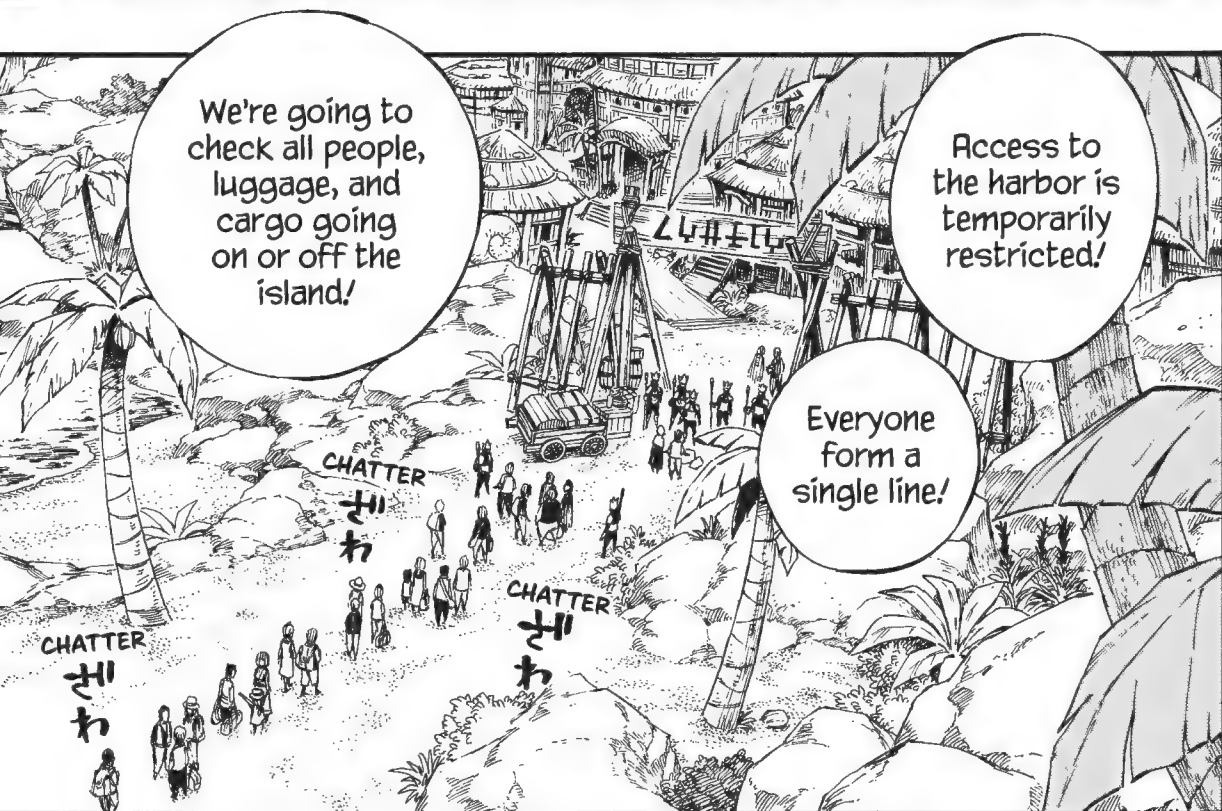


BOOM

The
Albareth
military is
here?!









I heard the star mango here is just exquisite!

We're here to see the sights!

Aye!

It's gonna be so much fun, right, Sis?



We're in the Cait Shelter wizard's guild!

Are those guild marks?

Is that setup even necessary?

"Sis" ...?



Not surprising. Most Ishgal guilds aren't worth knowing.

Never heard of *that* guild!

This brings back memories!

Heh heh! These false marks are perfect!





Say,
guys...



Yeah, but...
would anybody
connected to a
spy come here
displaying their
guild mark?

Should we
check them
more thoroughly?
That's what they
told us to do with
the wizards.

That's
true...



They're
going to run
out of star
mangoes!

...Would you
please let
us through?

SQUEEZE
4#11



They're
cleared to
pass!

R-Right!
Just show
your bags for
inspection!!





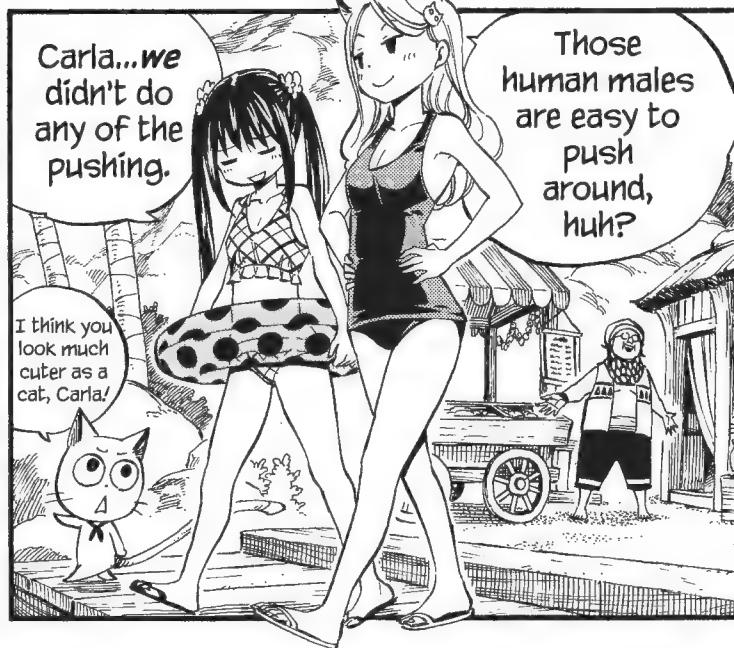
I have to tip
my hat to
that perfor-
mance!

I'm
impressed!



We
mustn't
relax our
guard.

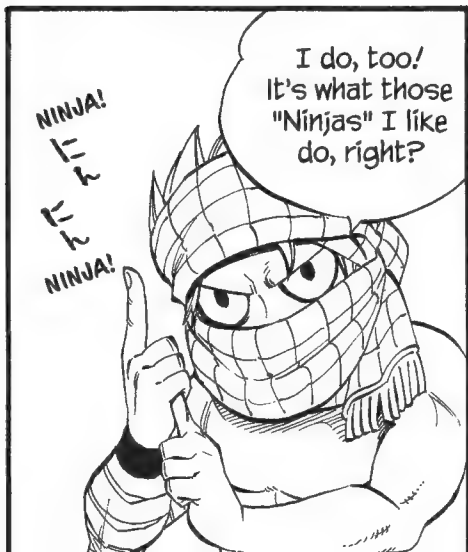
Anyway,
keep your
eyes open. This
whole place is
crawling with
soldiers!



Carla...we
didn't do
any of the
pushing.

Those
human males
are easy to
push
around,
huh?

I think you
look much
cuter as a
cat, Carla!



NINJA!
NINJA!
NINJA!

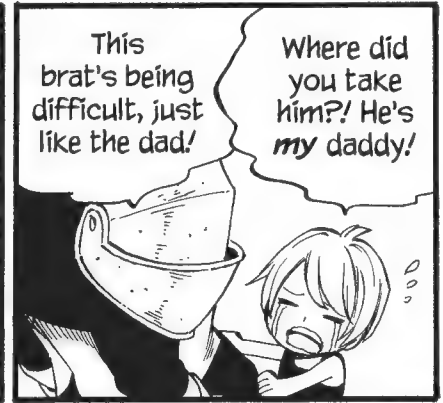
I do, too!
It's what those
"Ninjas" I like
do, right?



You are the
least likely to
understand
anything about
infiltration.

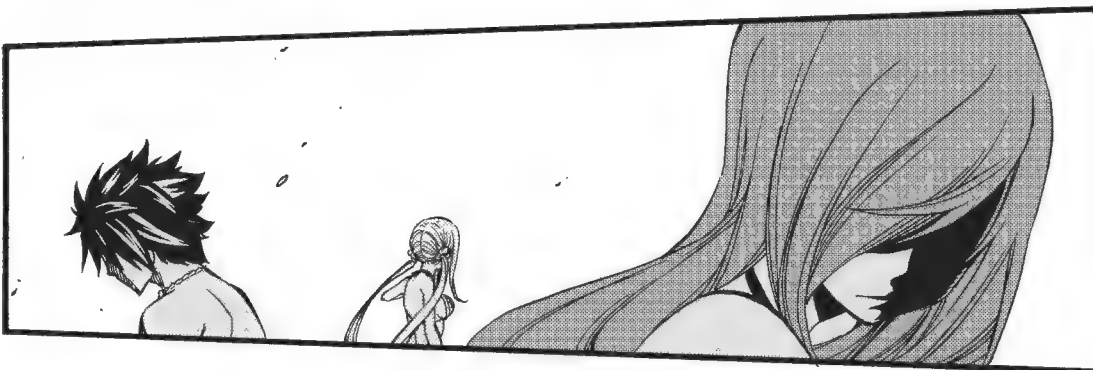
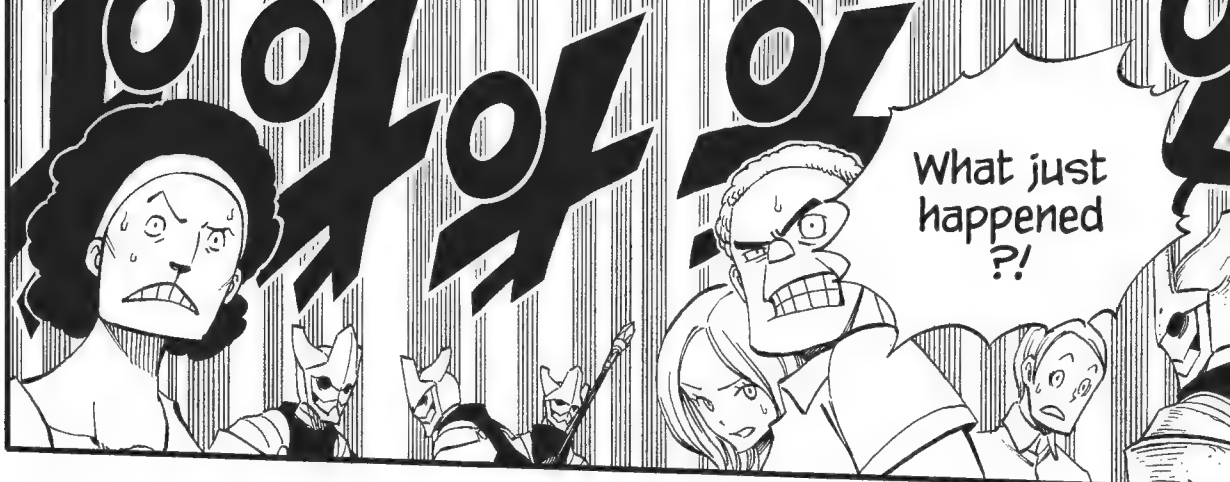
Why do I
always get
lectured?

Don't
you do
anything
rash!



BOOOOM



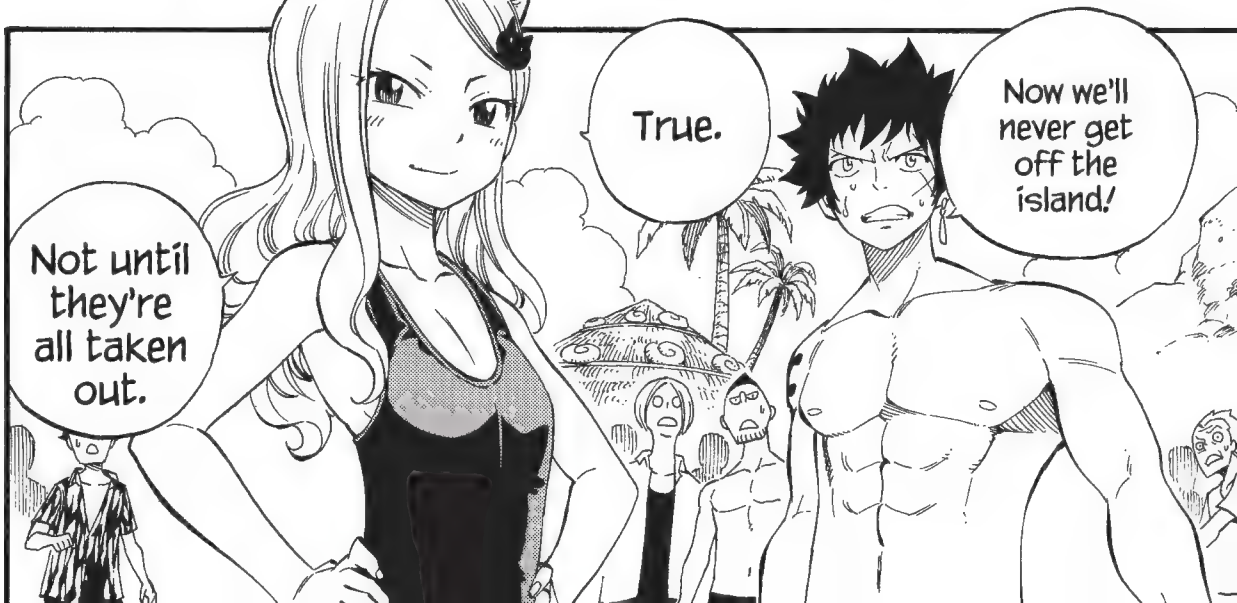
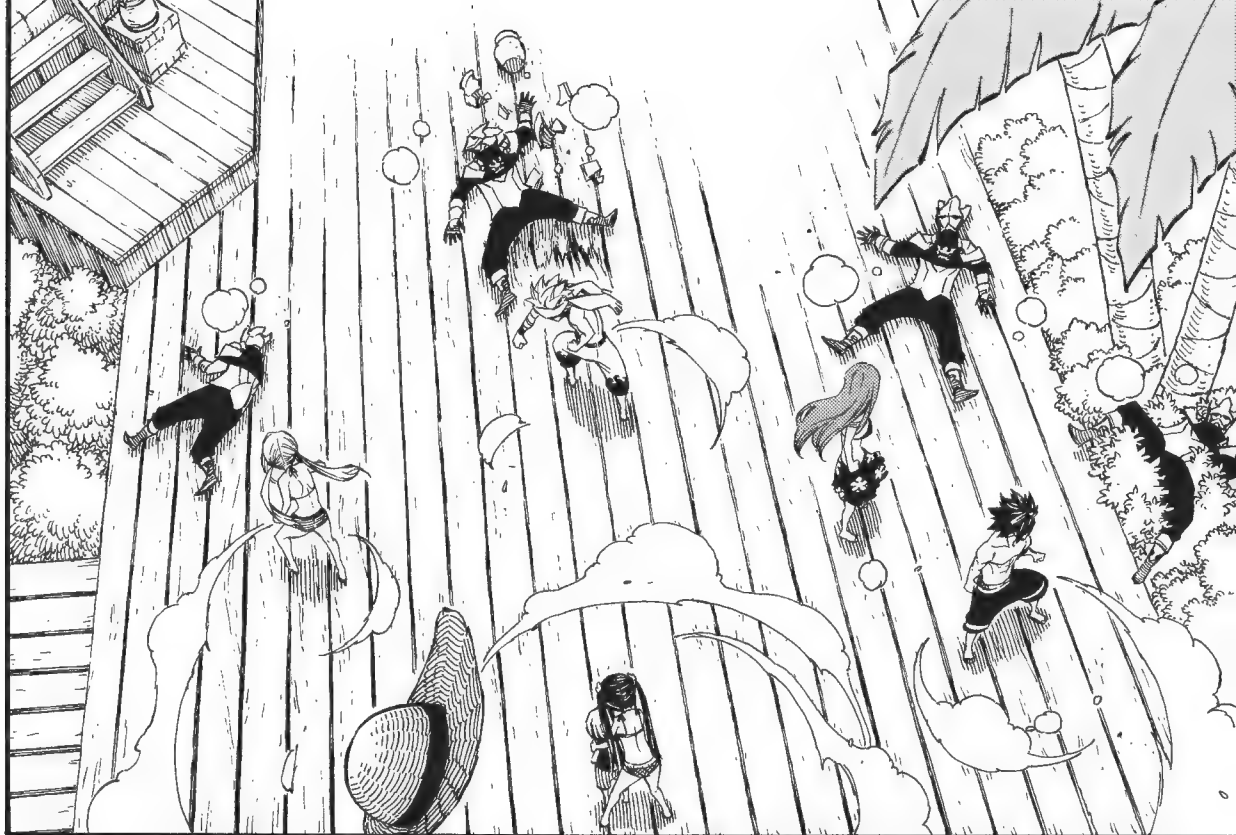


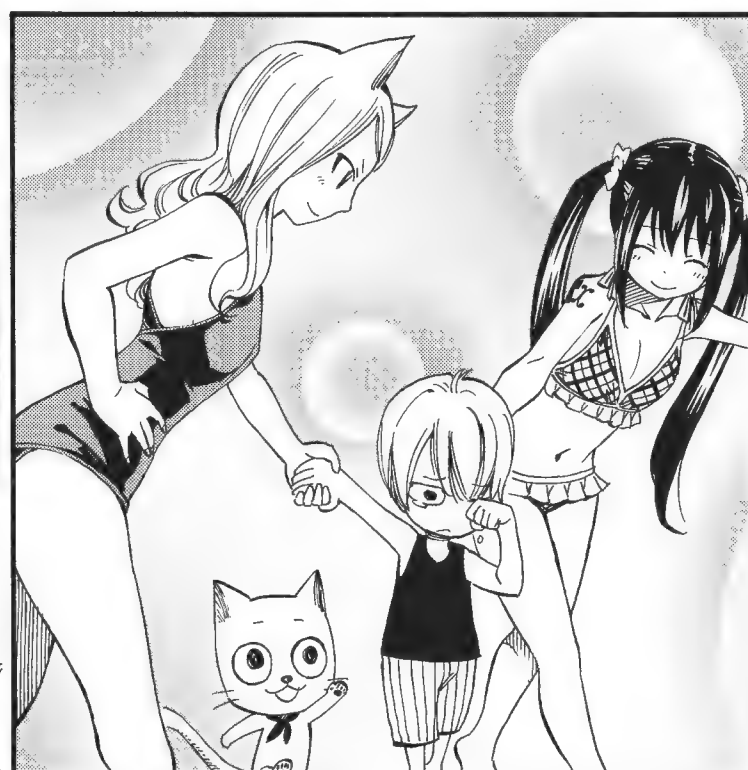
FAIRYTAIL

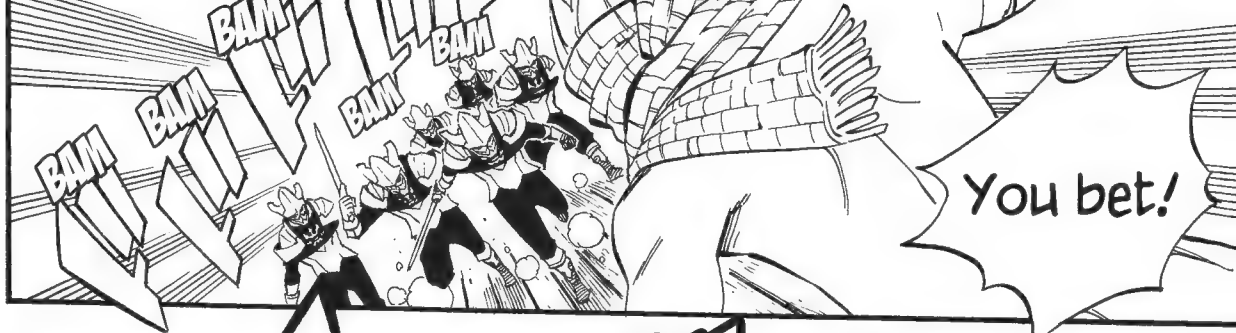
フェアリーテイル

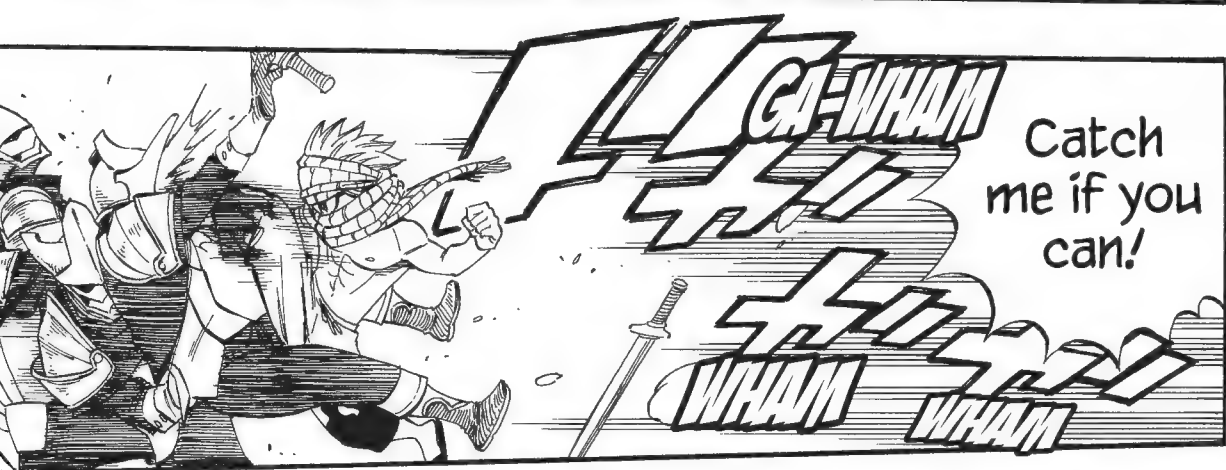
Chapter 442: Rules of the Area



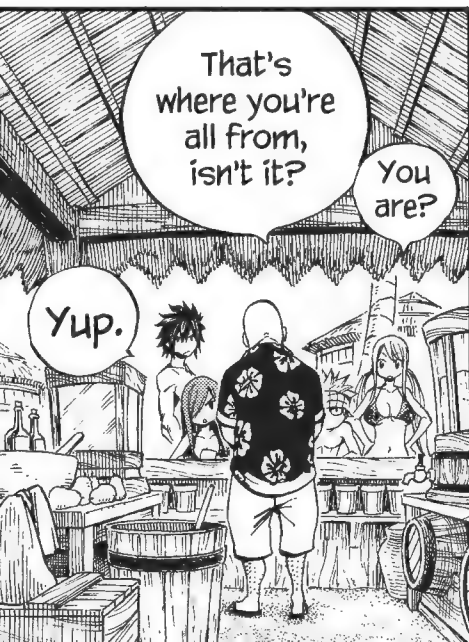
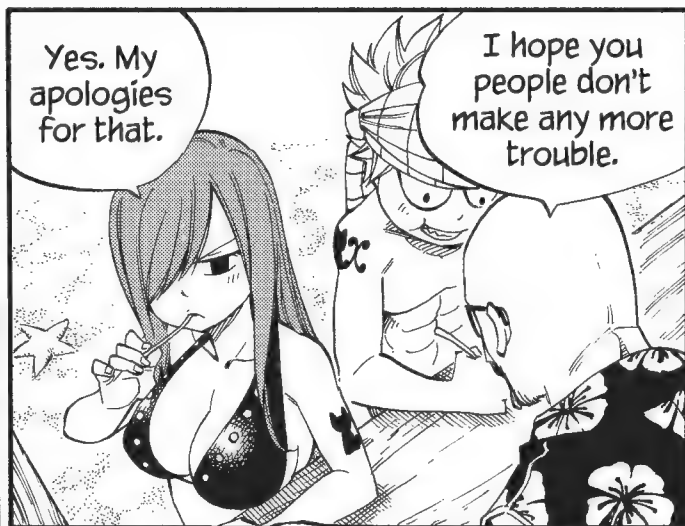
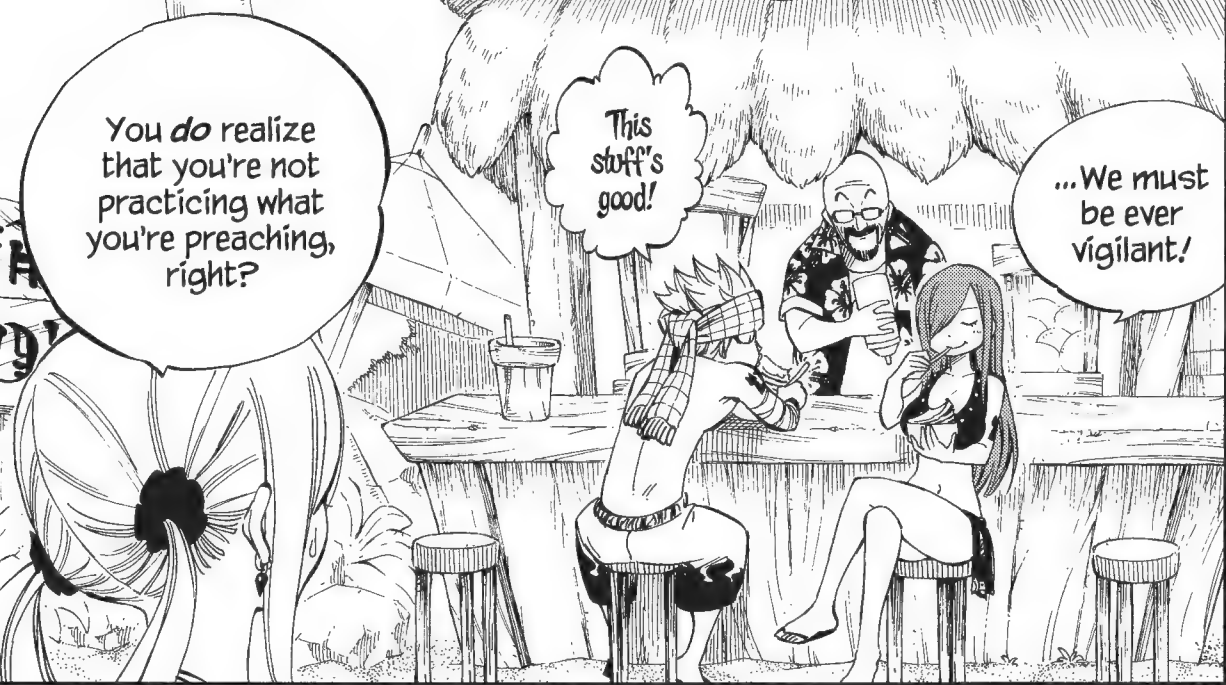










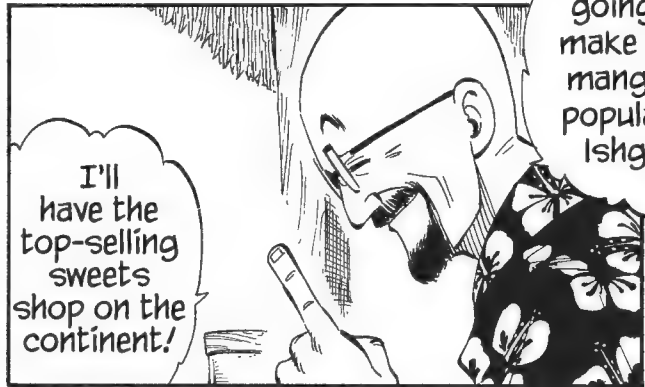




A good dream!

ahem!

Yes! That's a sweet—



I'll have the top-selling sweets shop on the continent!

I'm going to make star mangoes popular in Ishgal!



...but I'm working toward my dream.

I know this shack looks old and run-down...



So a minor brawl like this...





Allow me
to introduce
myself—
Marin Hollow.

I'm a member
of the Albareth
Imperial Army,
Brandish
Division.

ALBARETH
IMPERIAL ARMY
BRANDISH DIVISION

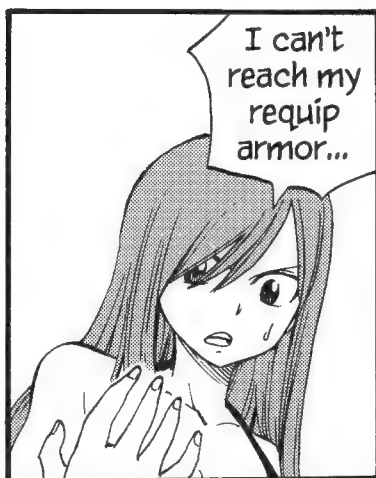
MARIN HOLLOW

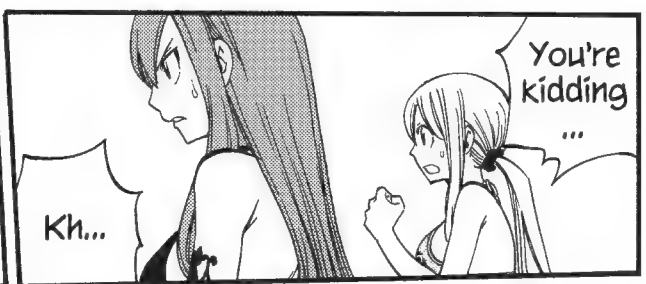
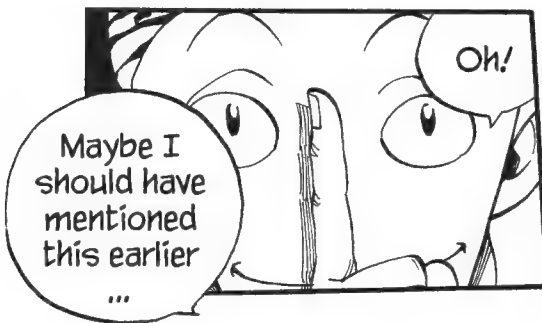


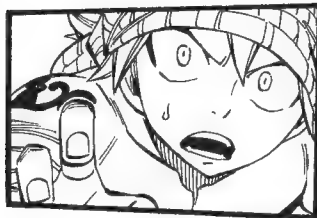
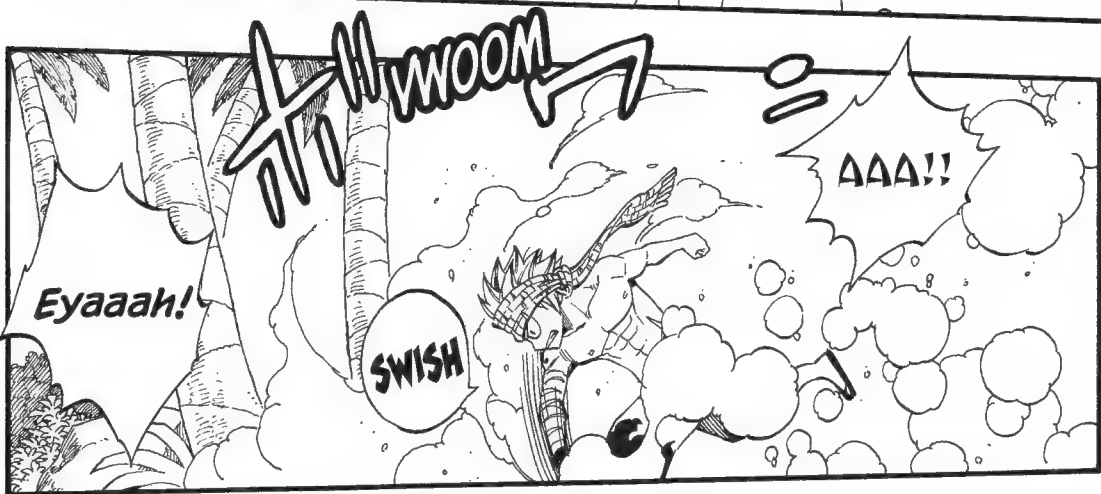
My
dream is
ruined... You
monster...

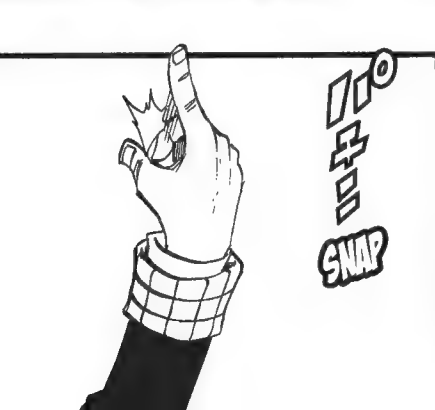
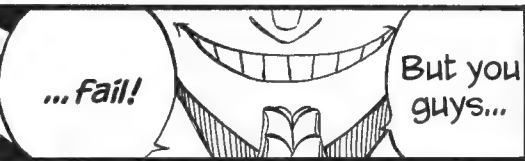








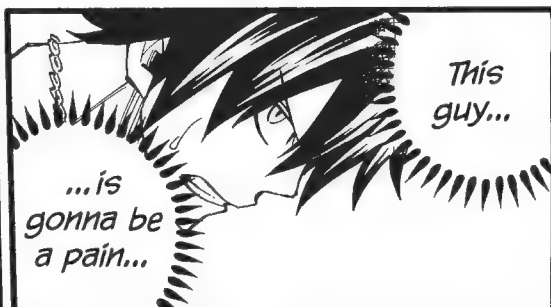
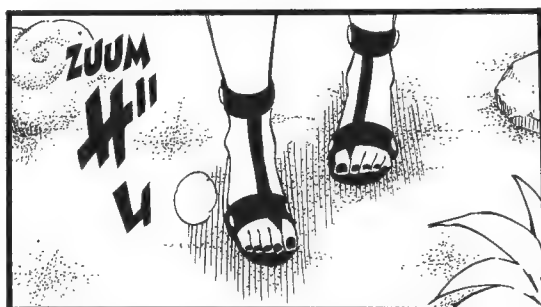














Could you stop that?
It gives me the creeps.

Oh, a thousand pardons, Brandish-sama! And I must say, you always get the highest grades!!

ALBARETH
IMPERIAL ARMY
SPRIGGAN 12

BRANDISH ^{MU} 11

...this
overwhelming
aura of
magical
power... !!!

What is
this...

FAIRY TAIL

Chapter 443: And the Land Just Vanished





Juvia is too embarrassed...

Juvia, why don't you join us?

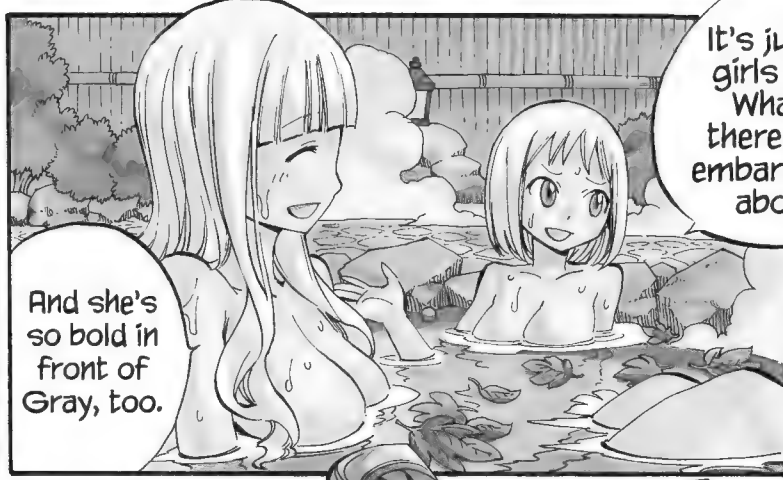
SIGH...
Hot springs are just the thing for a body worn-out from traveling.

STEAM
STEAM
STEAM

*Curtain: Women's



Look, it's Gray!



And she's so bold in front of Gray, too.

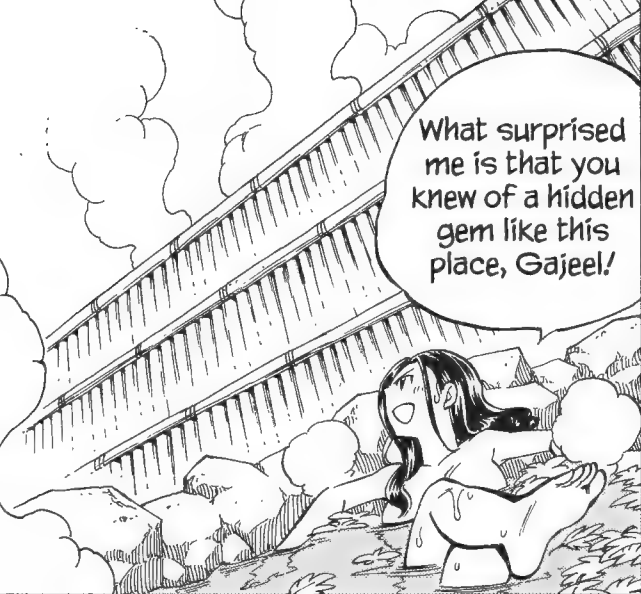
It's just us girls here! What is there to be embarrassed about?



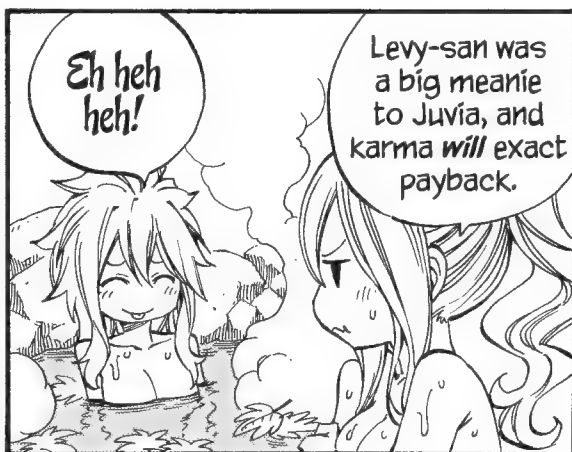
Funny kind of shyness *she's* got.

GRAY-SAMA!
Whoops! Juvia's towel just happened to slip off!!
Totally by accident!

JUVEEEEN
FLAP



What surprised me is that you knew of a hidden gem like this place, Gajeel!



Eh heh heh!

Levy-san was a big meanie to Juvia, and karma *will* exact payback.

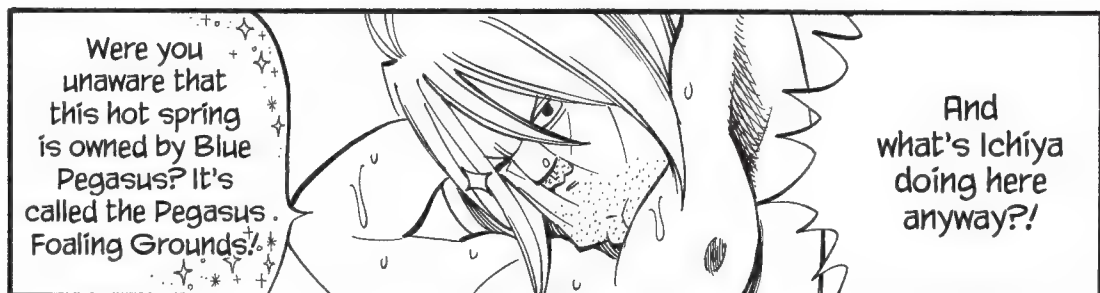


Worst. View. Ever.

Meeen!

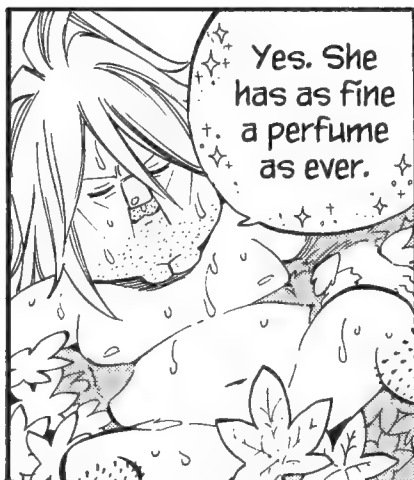
GEE HEE!
Don't compare me to Salamander!

He may not look it, but Gajeel is a hot spring enthusiast.



Were you unaware that this hot spring is owned by Blue Pegasus? It's called the Pegasus Foaling Grounds!

And what's Ichiya doing here anyway?!



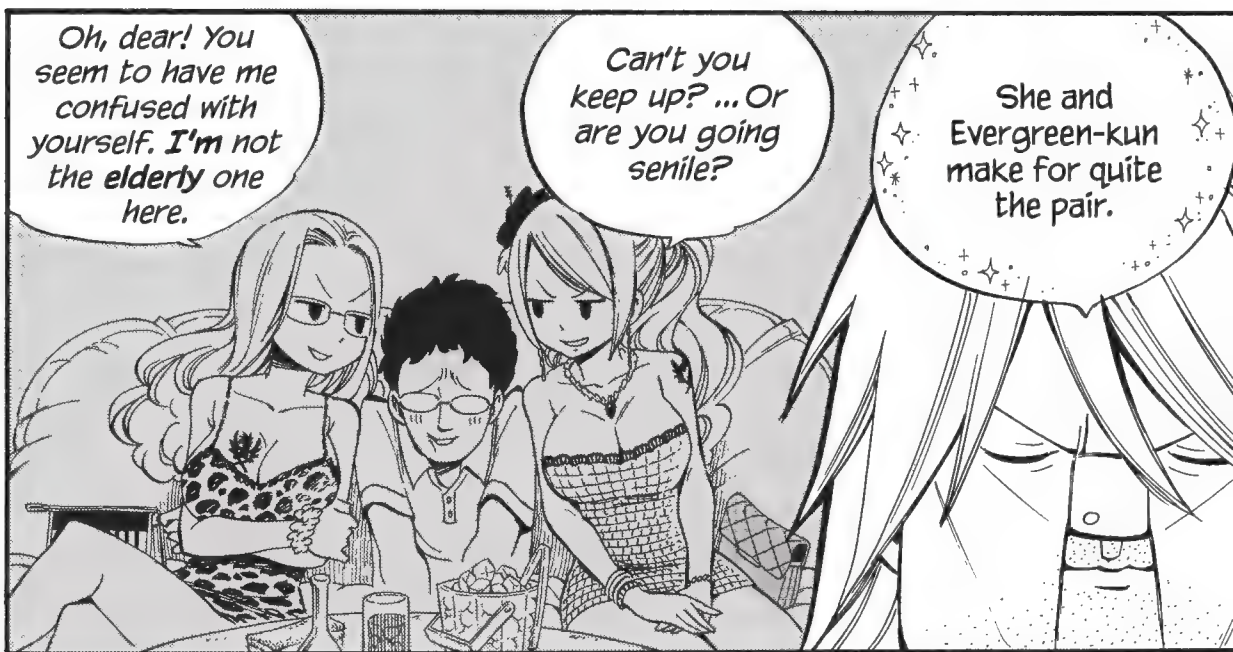
Yes. She has as fine a perfume as ever.



I hope Jenny's doing okay!

Exactly!

You mean the guild hall is somewhere nearby?



Oh, dear! You seem to have me confused with yourself. I'm not the **elderly** one here.

Can't you keep up? ... Or are you going senile?

She and Evergreen-kun make for quite the pair.

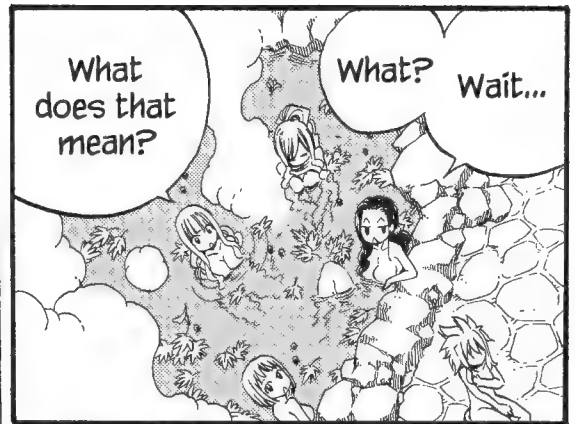


They're well on their way to becoming aces of Blue Pegasus.

And Fried-kun and Bickslow-kun are extremely popular!

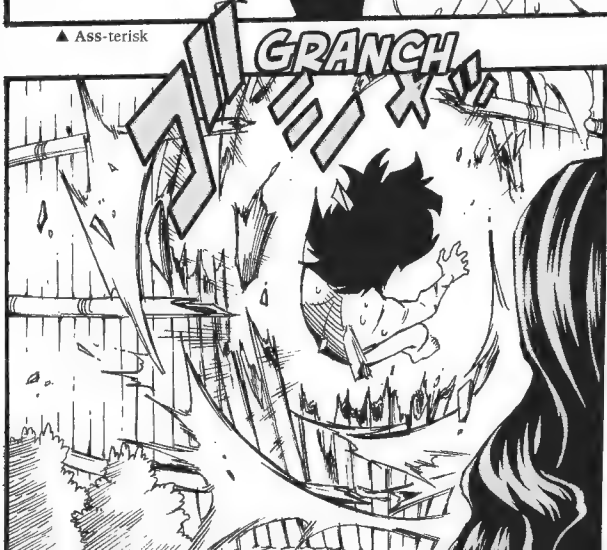


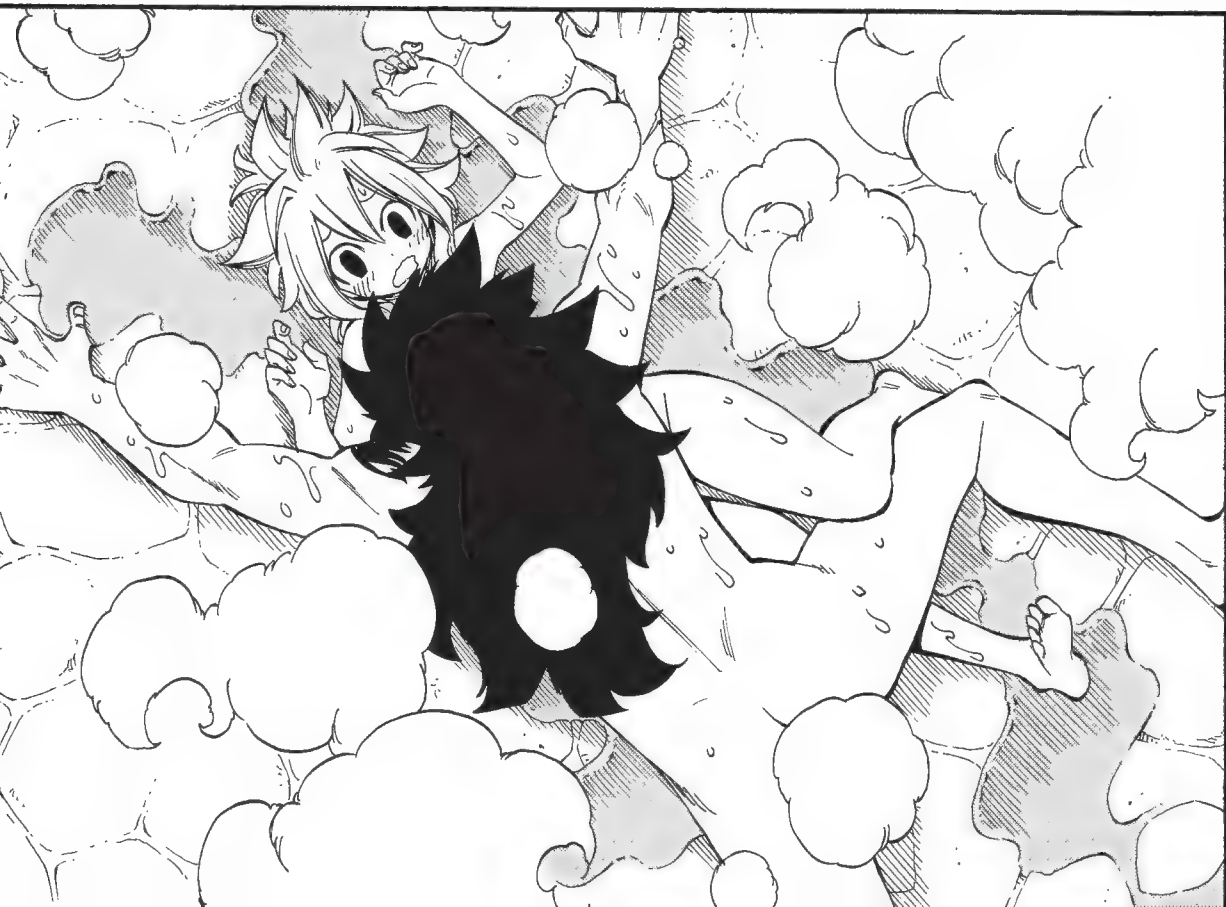
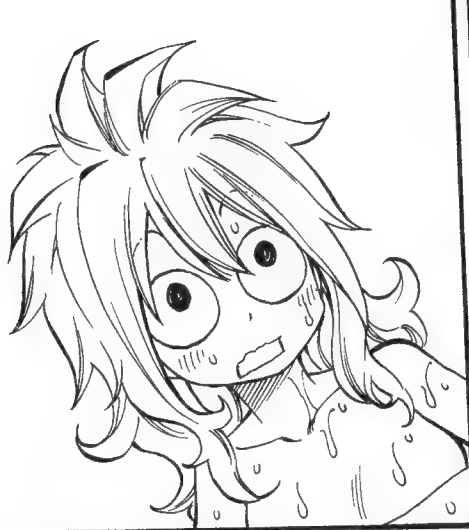
Huh?

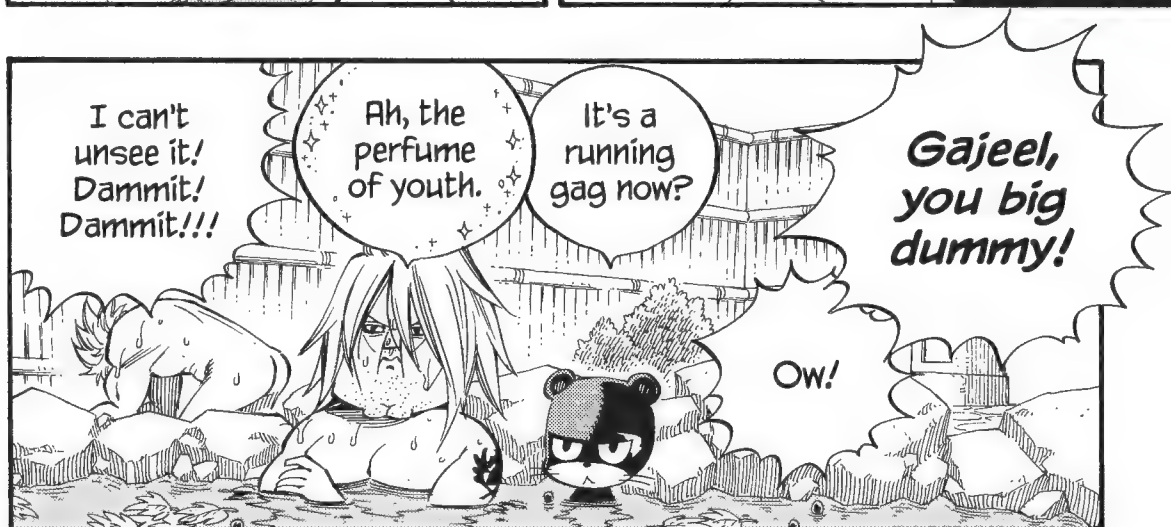


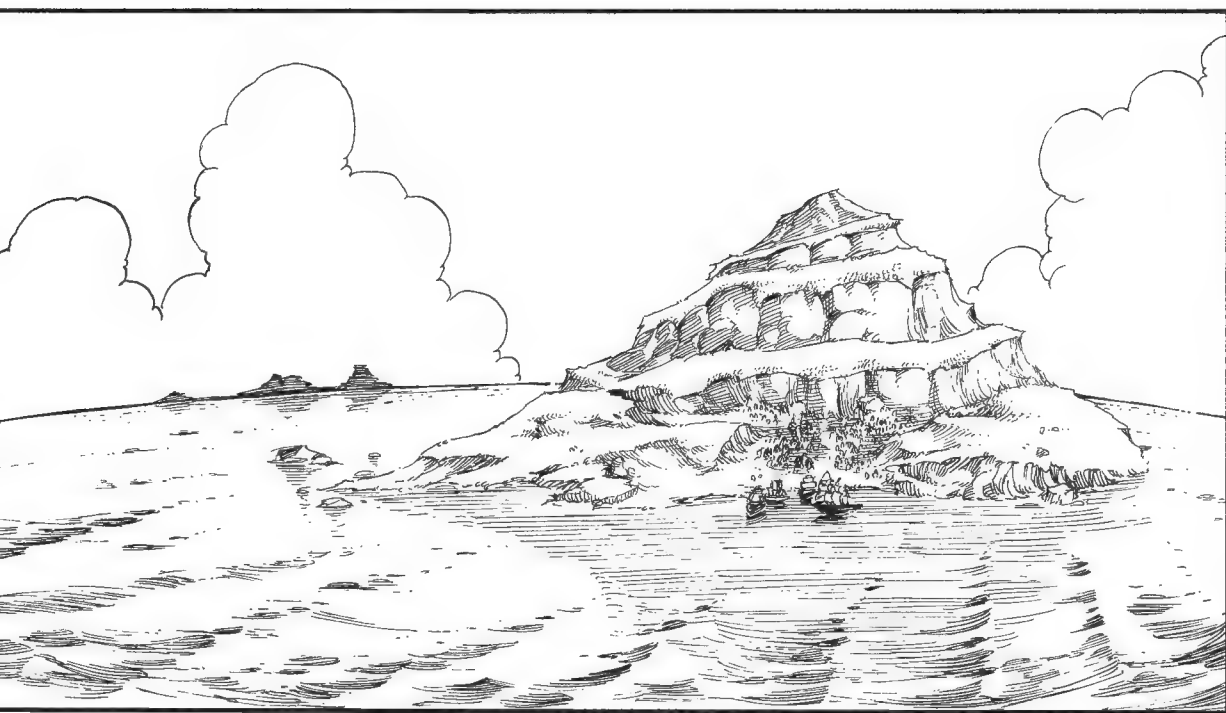


▲ ASS-terisk



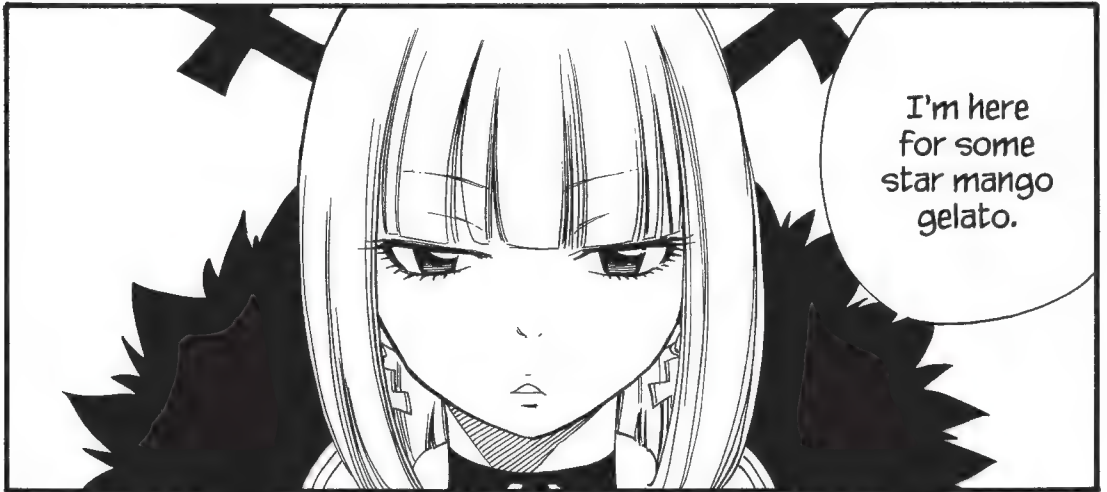




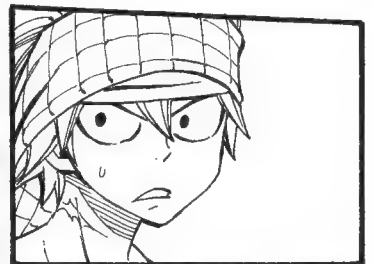
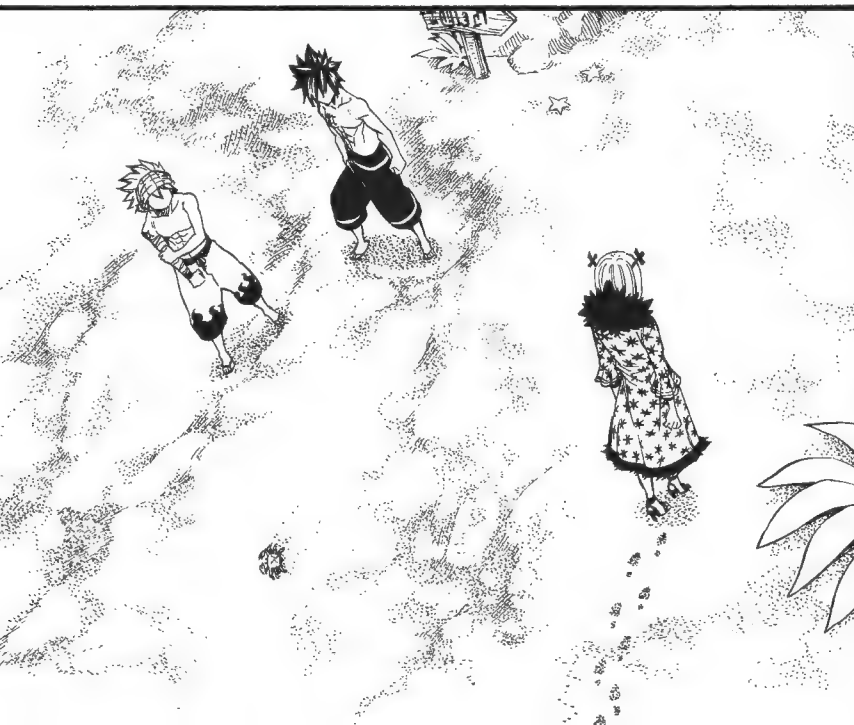




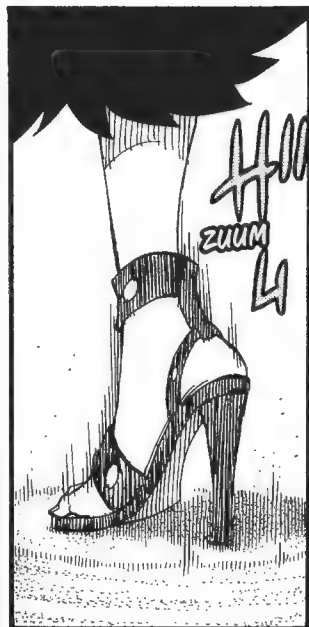
It's like
nothing I've
ever sensed
before...



I'm here
for some
star mango
gelato.

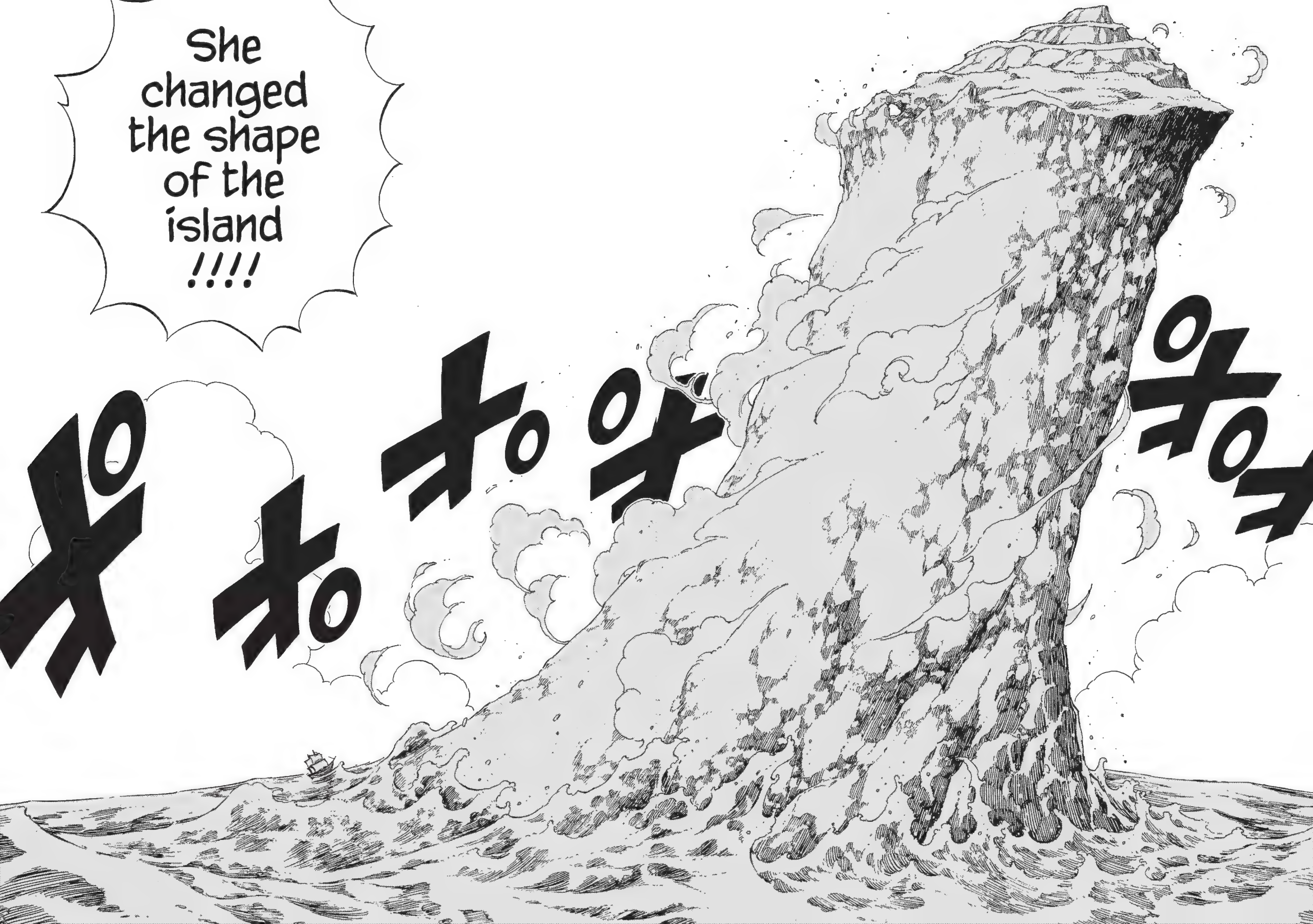








She
changed
the shape
of the
island
!!!!









Just who
is she...?!

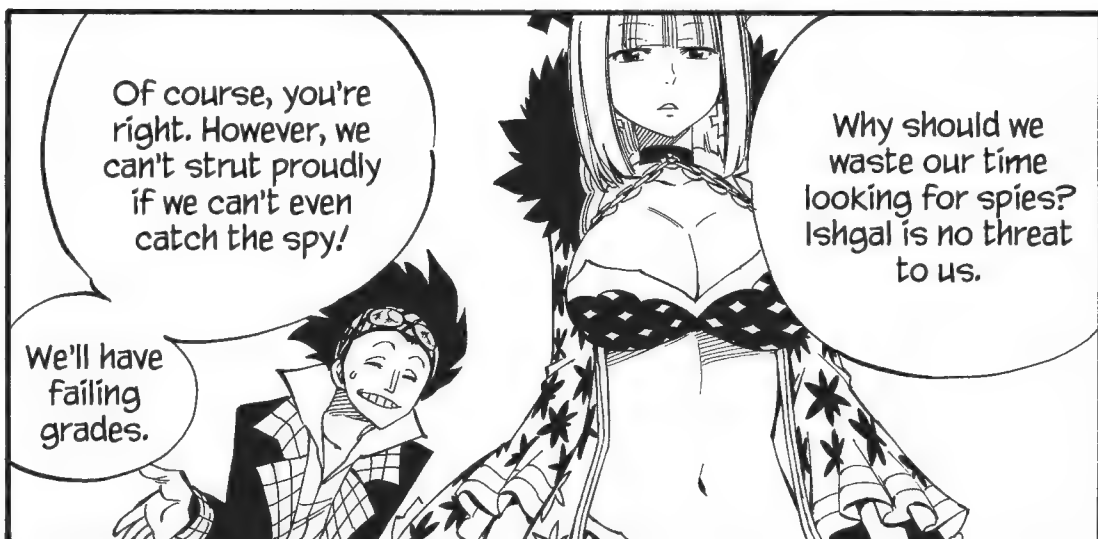


That
aura's bigger
than the
master's...



If we return
empty-handed,
can you imagine
what Wall-sama
will say...?

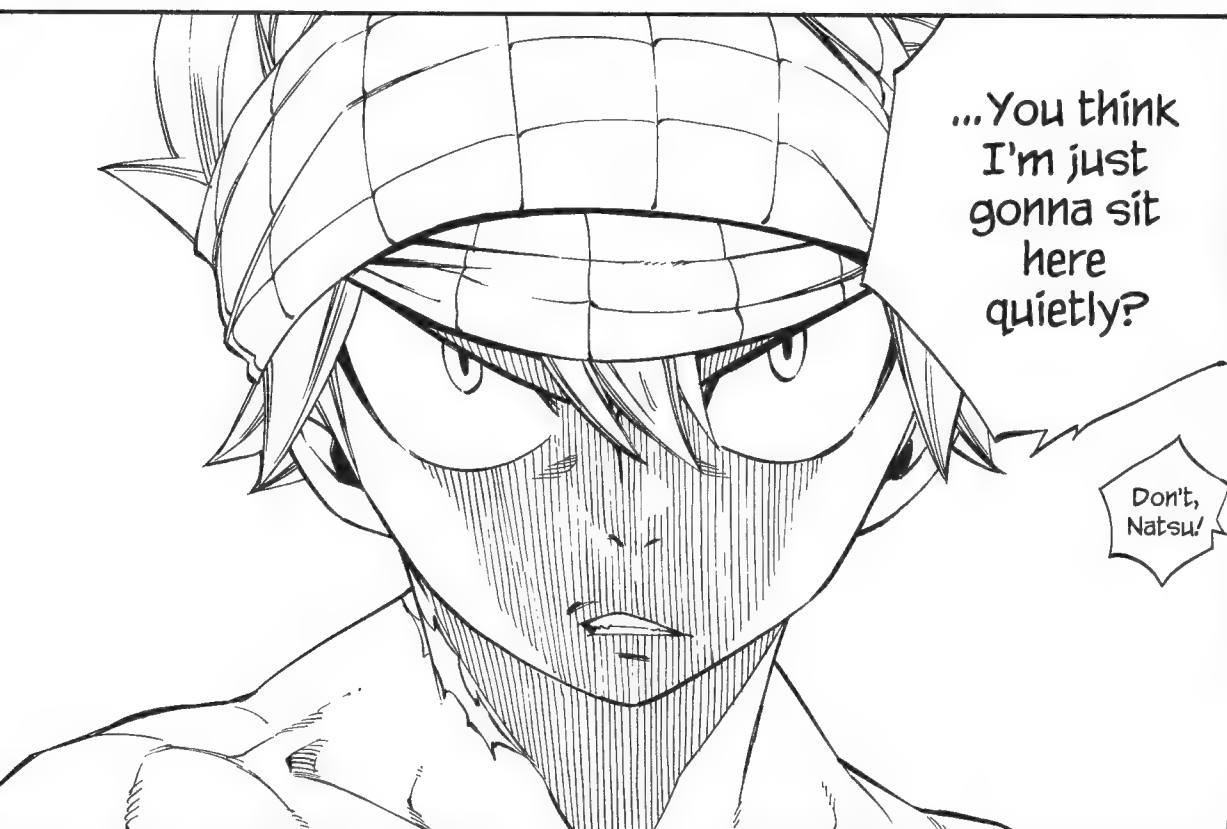
Brandish-sama,
our duty is to
capture the spy
and round up
any of the spy's
contacts!



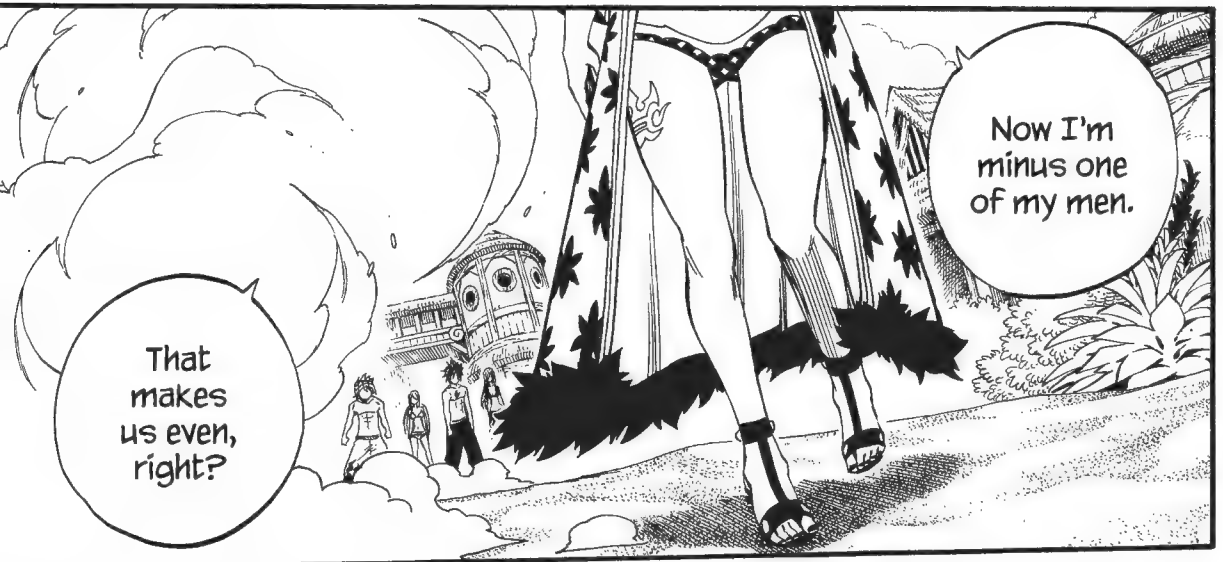
Of course, you're
right. However, we
can't strut proudly
if we can't even
catch the spy!

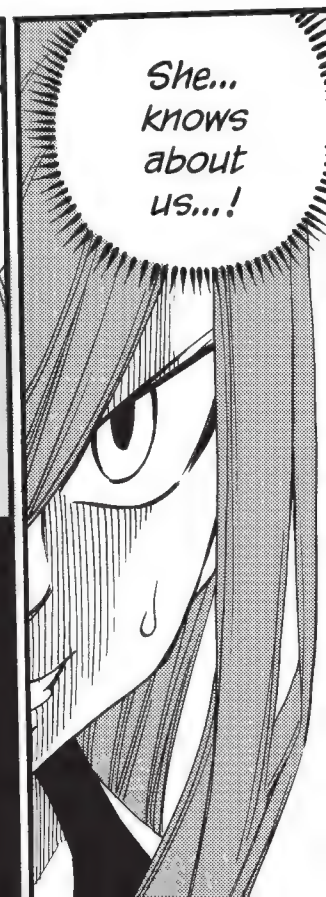
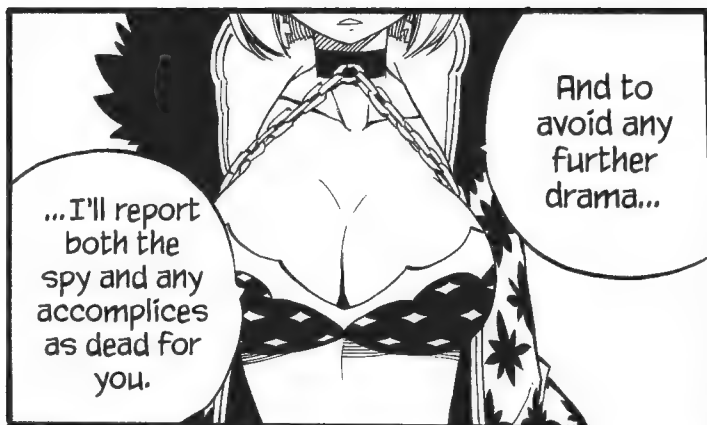
Why should we
waste our time
looking for spies?
Ishgal is no threat
to us.

We'll have
failing
grades.













The ground...

...just vani-BLURG

Wha-?!

BLOOSH

SPLOOSH

SPLOOSH

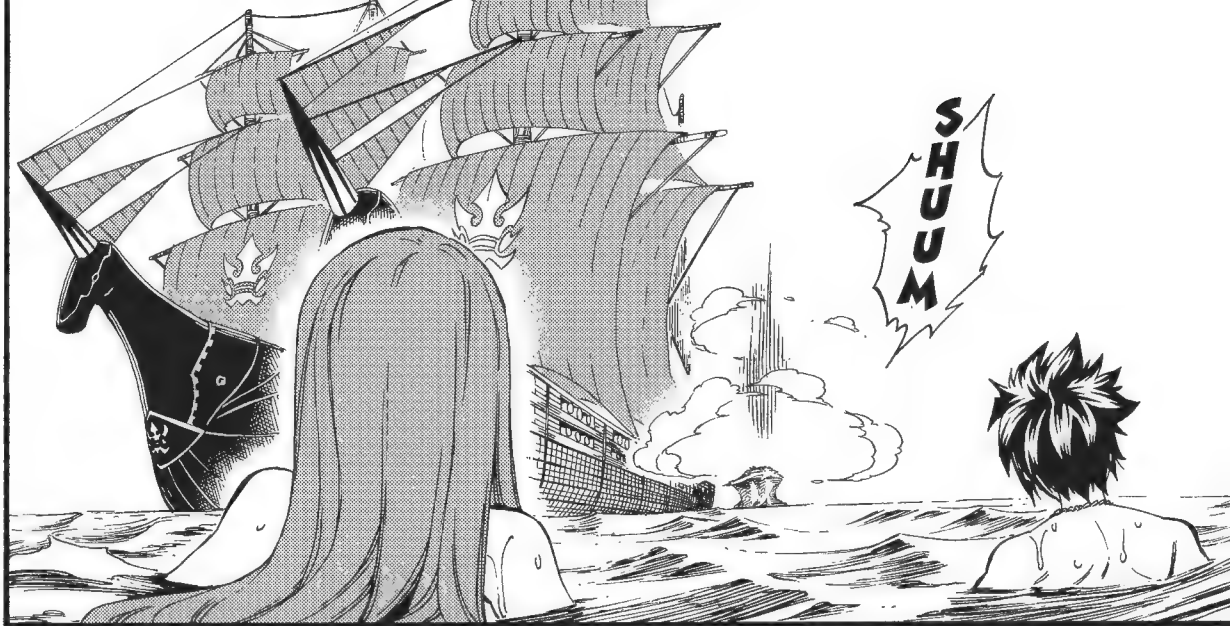
BLOOSH





BOOM

... Fairy
Tail.



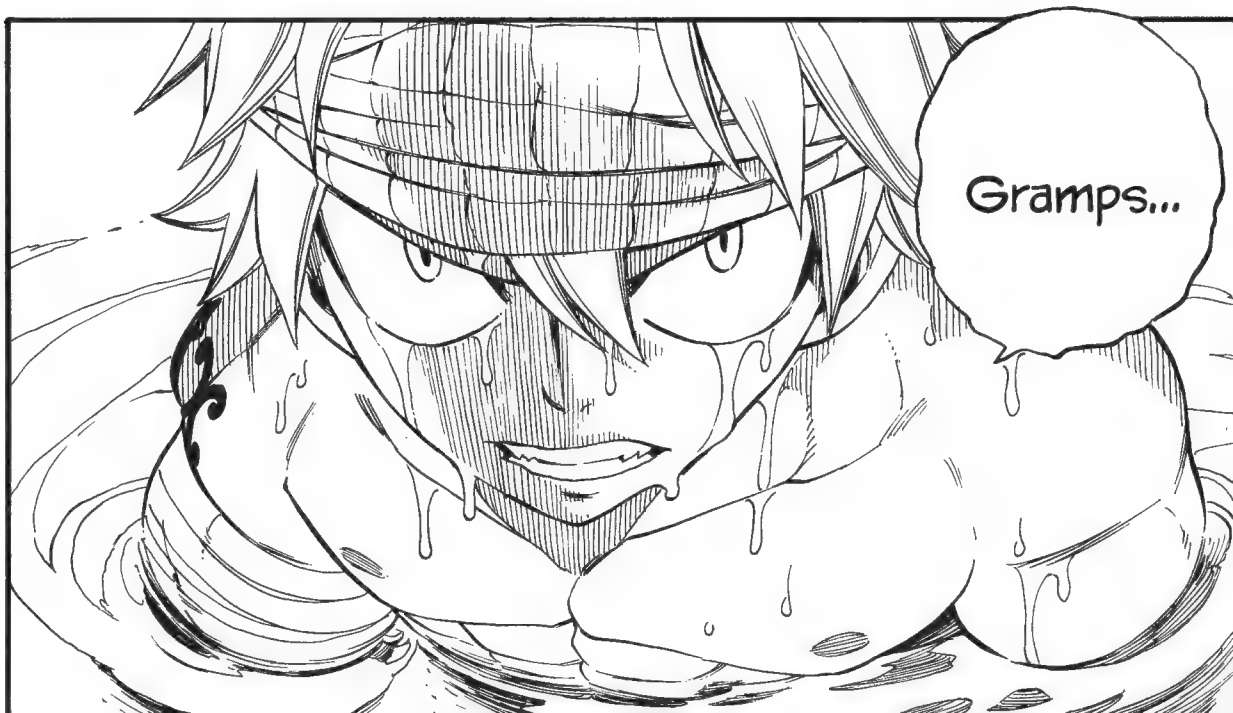
The
Albareth
Empire...



So they
already
figured
us out
...?!



There are
12 wizards
that
strong?!



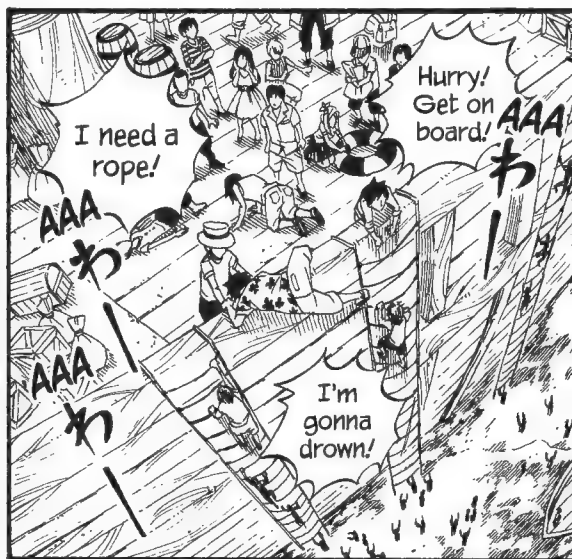
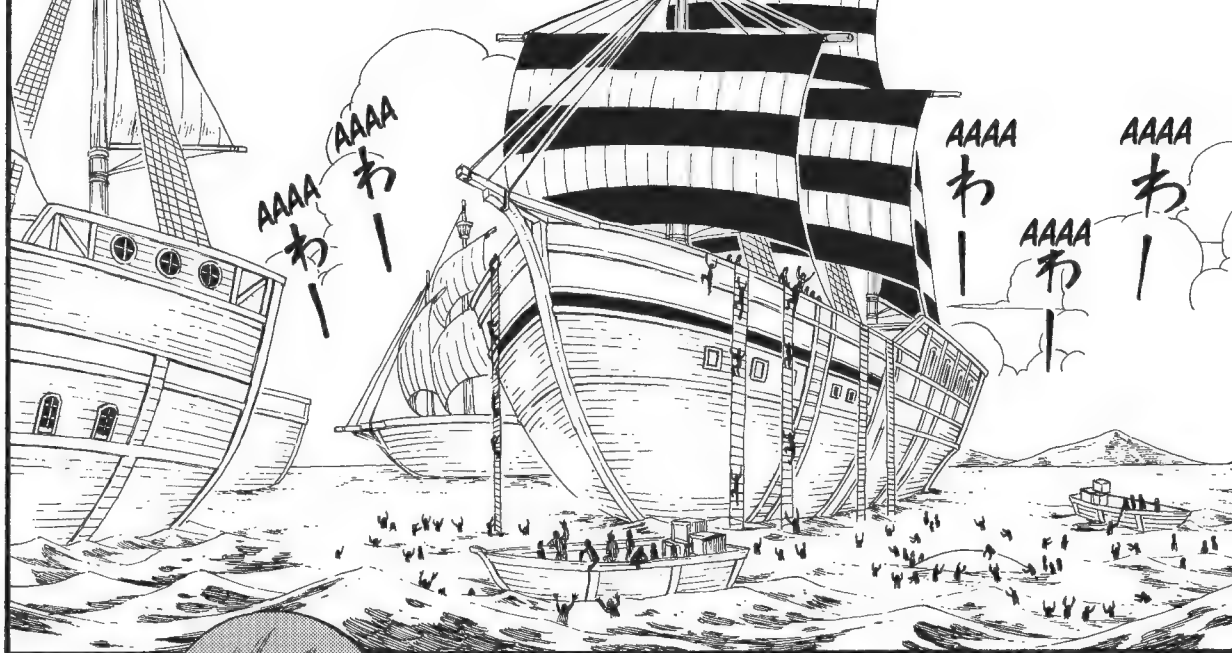
Gramps...

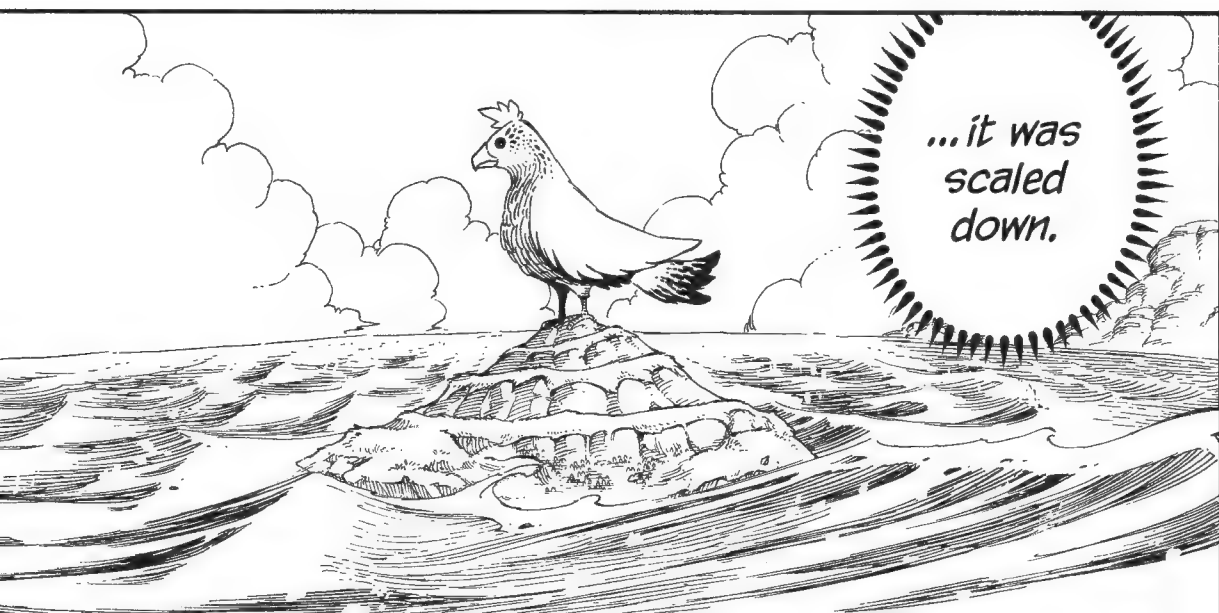
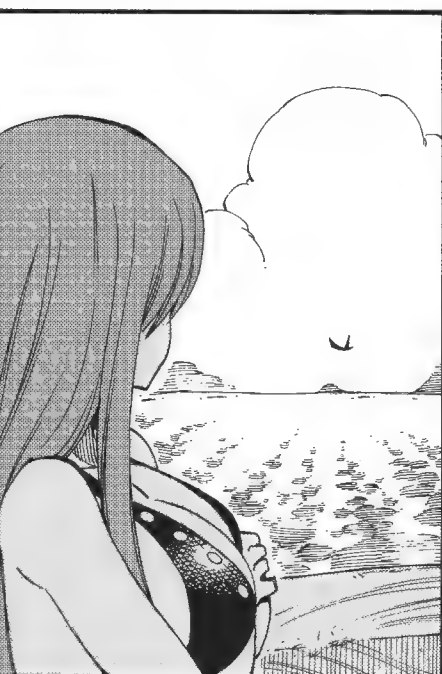
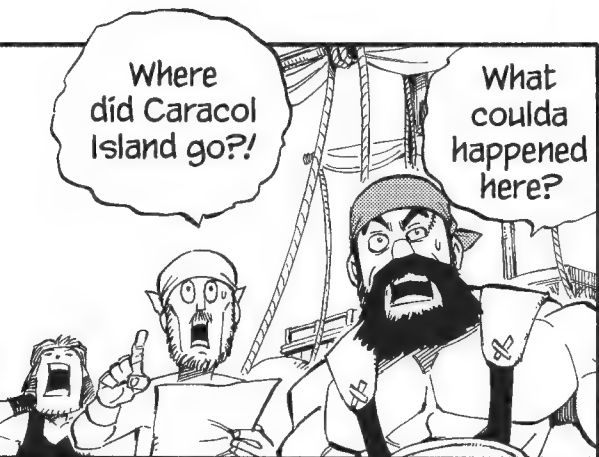
FAIRY TAIL

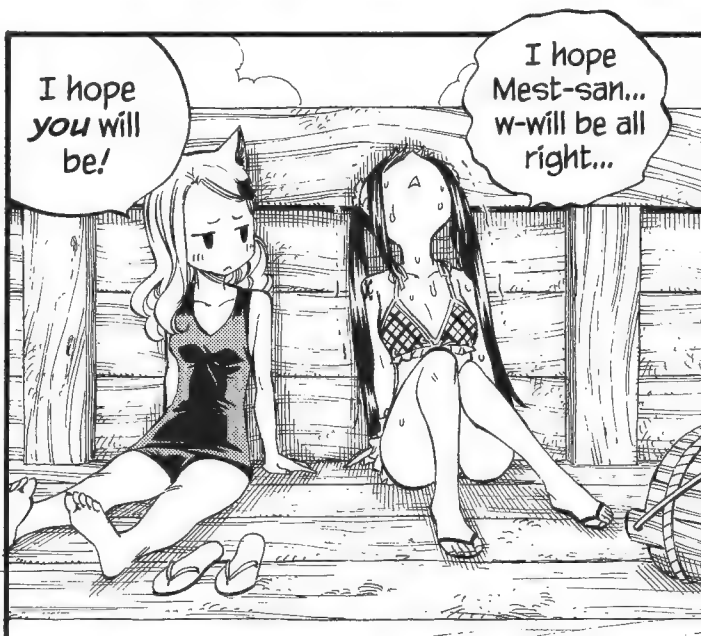
フェアリーテイル

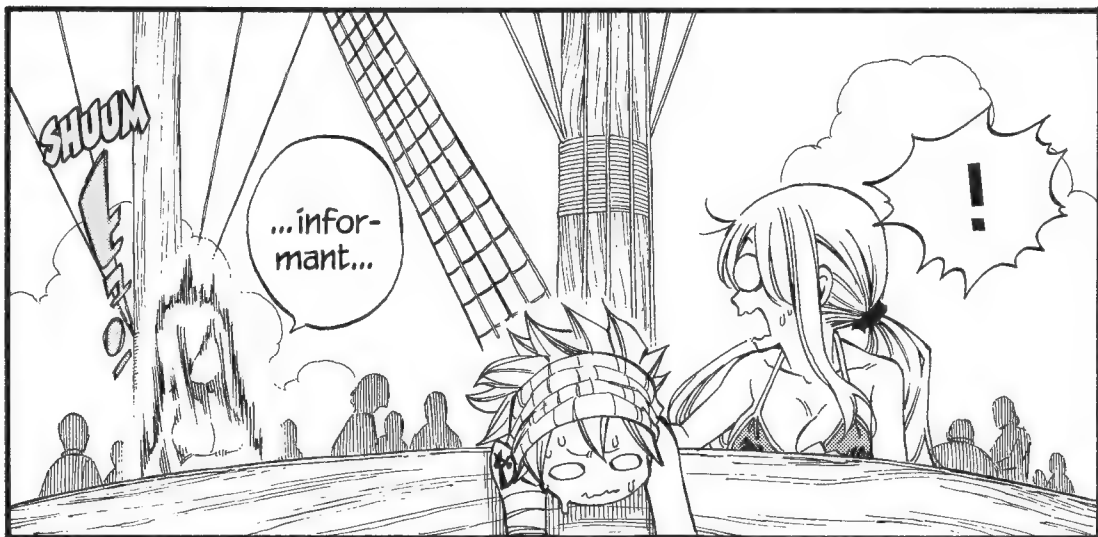
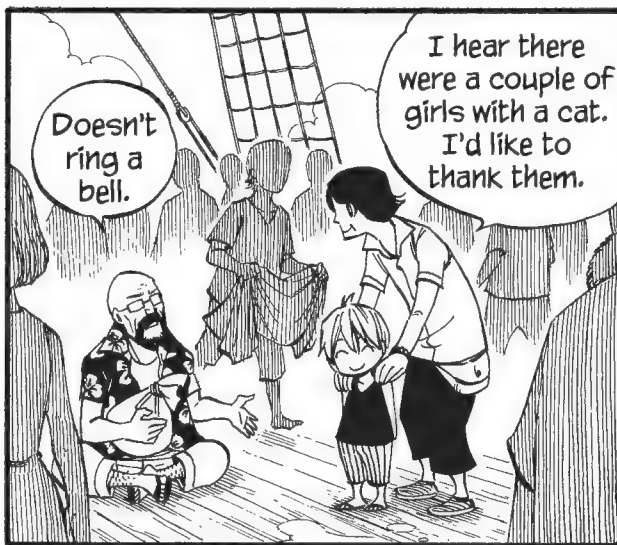
Chapter 444: Emperor Spriggan

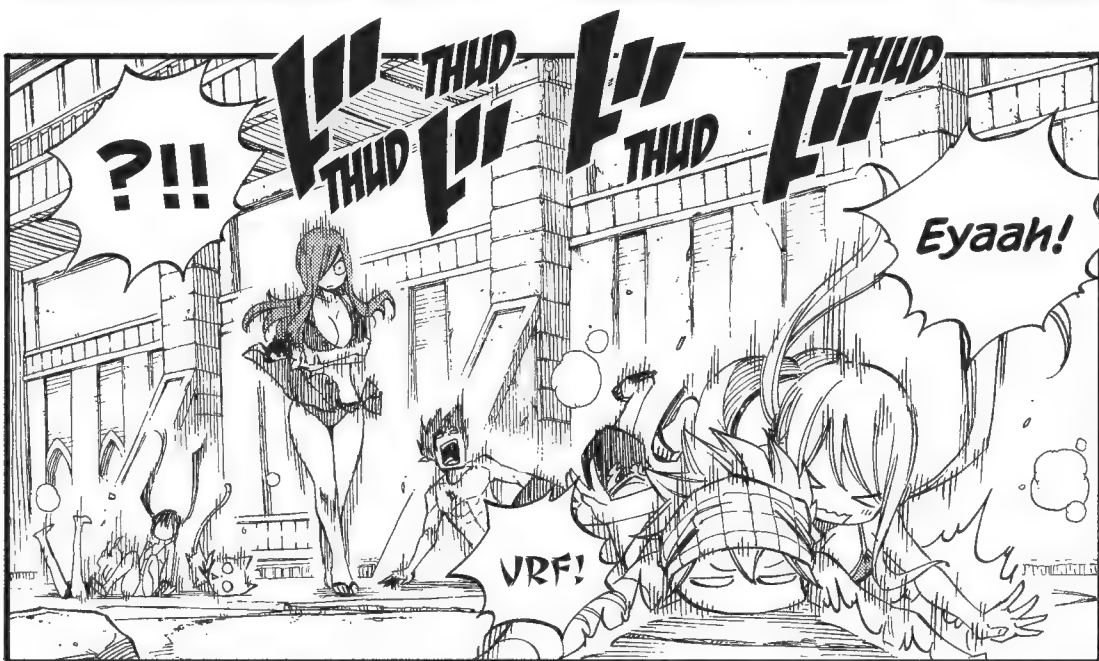
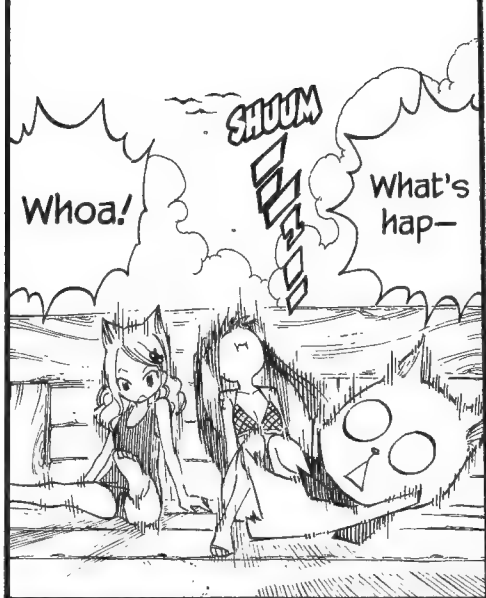




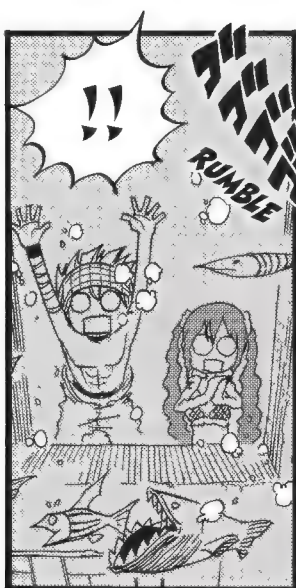




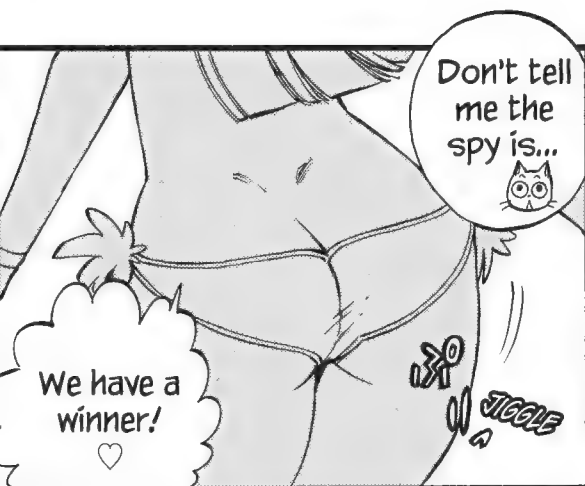




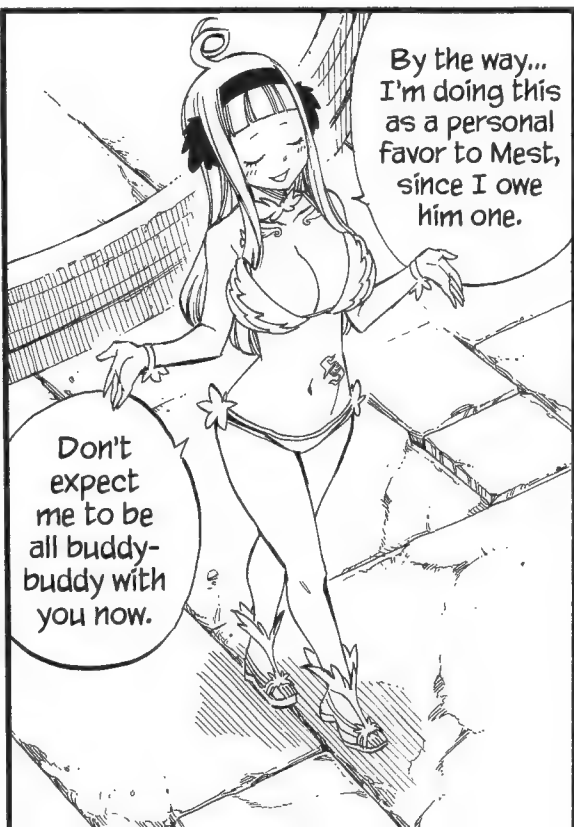


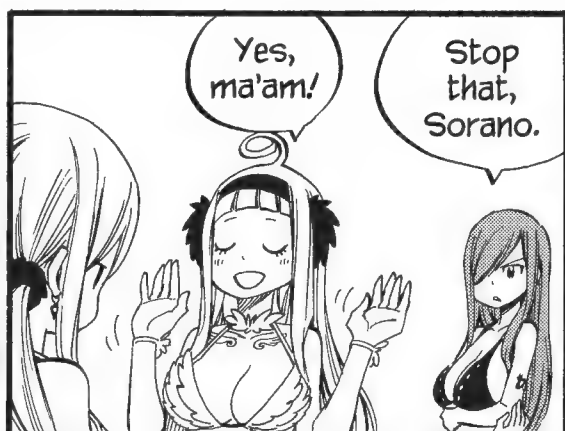
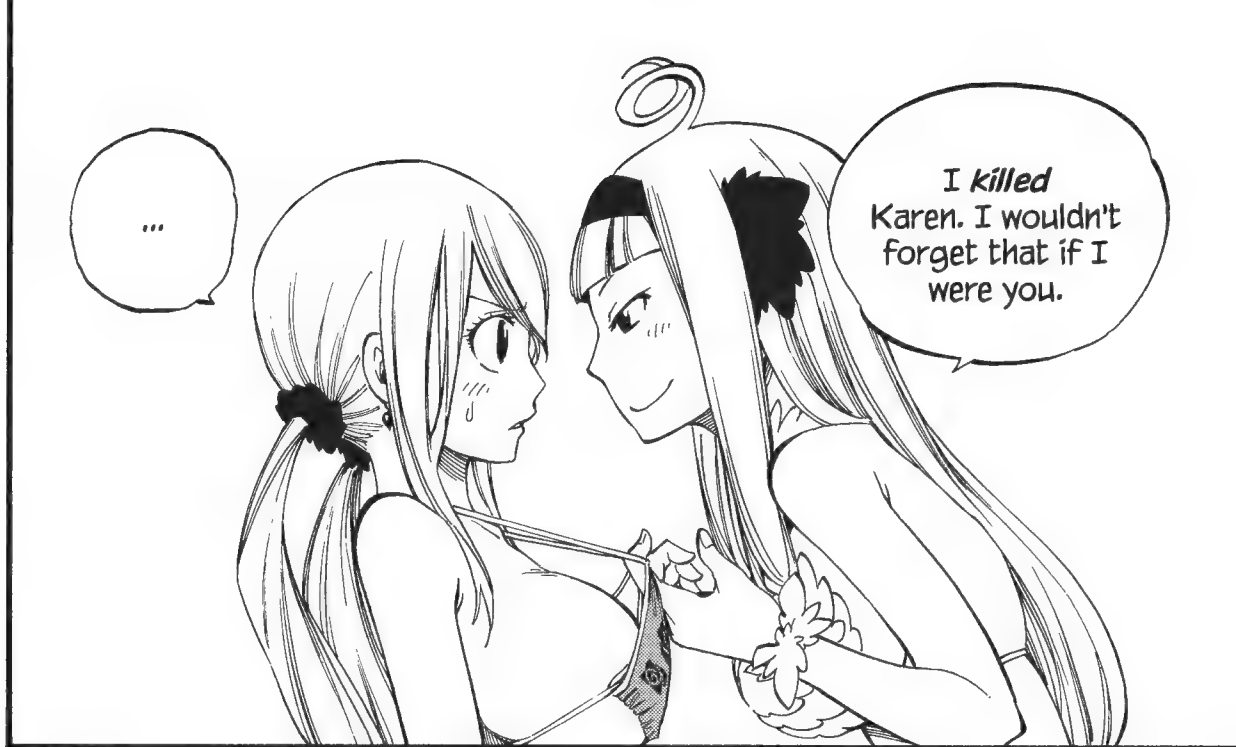


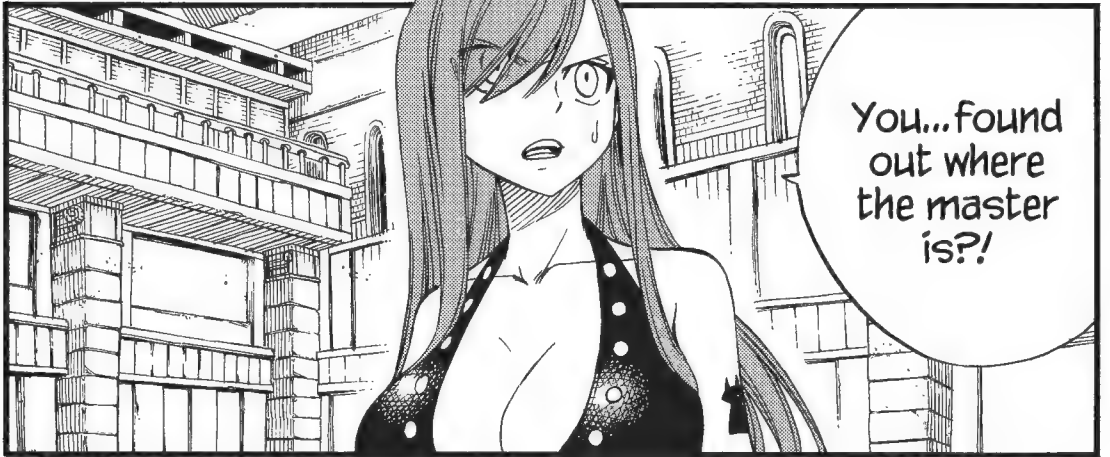




*Cobra



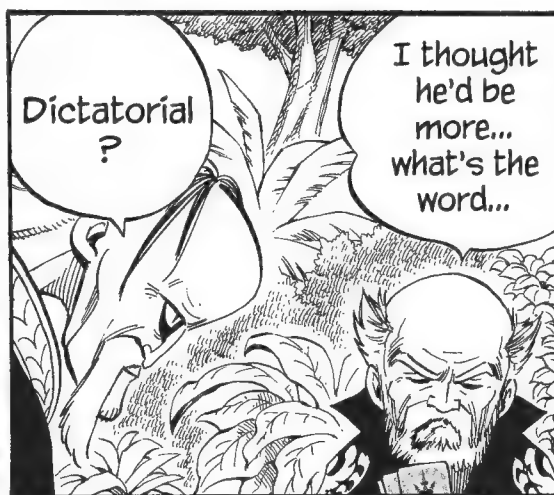
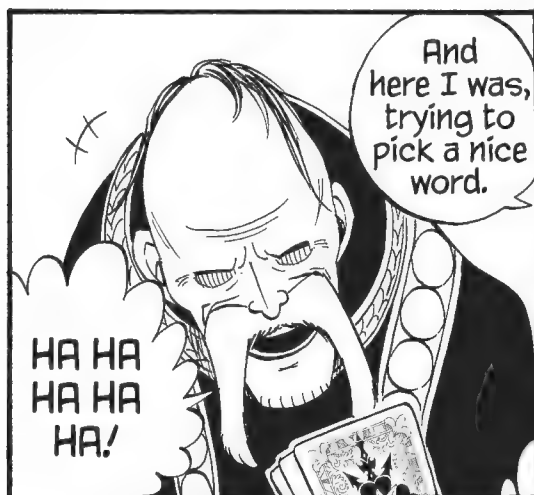


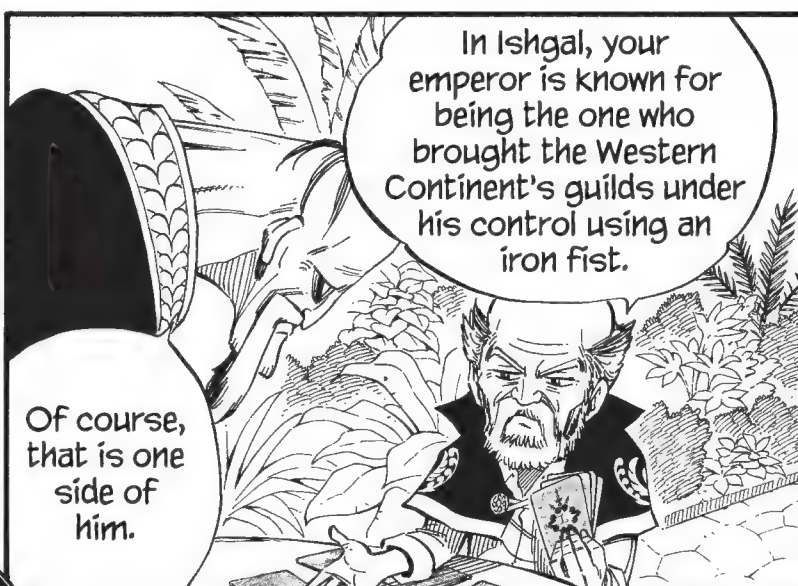
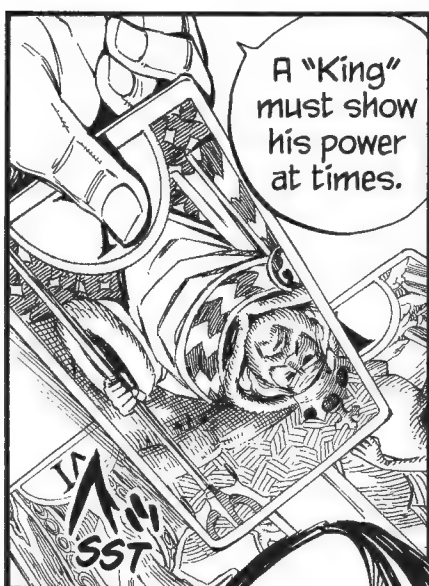
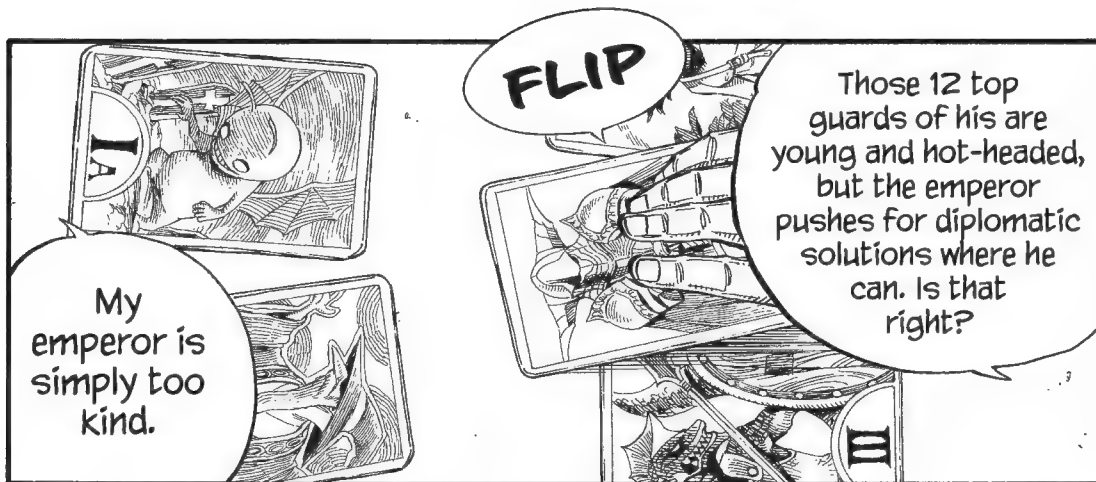




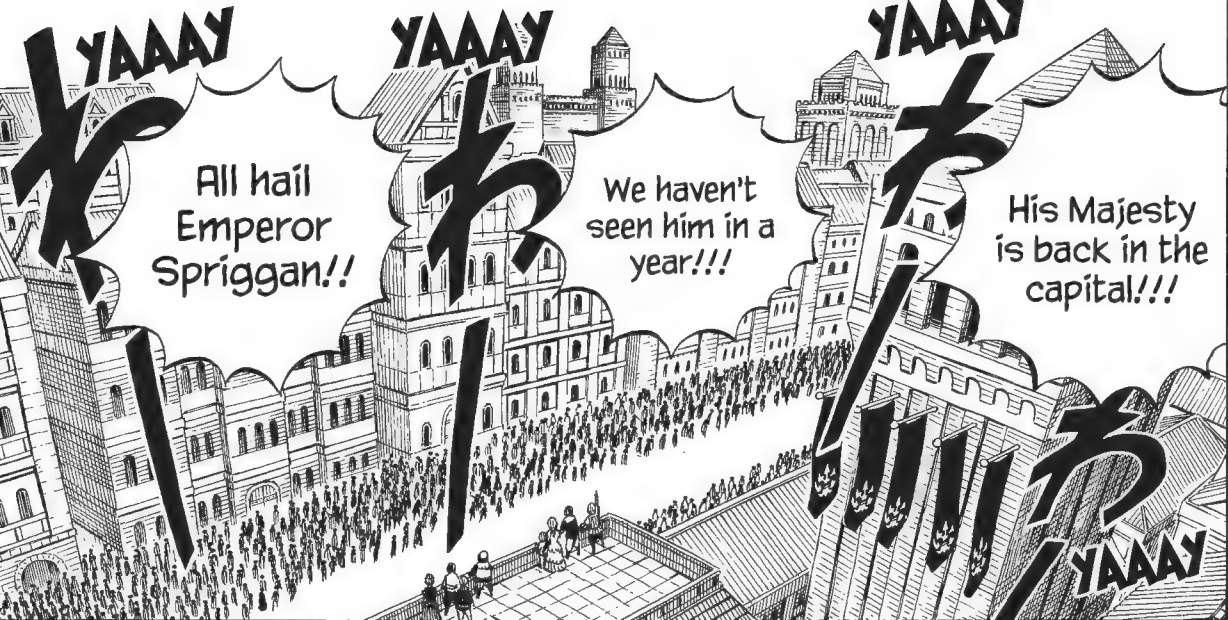
Vistarion,
the capital of the
Albareth
Empire...







Legenka: An Albareth card game.



All hail
Emperor
Spriggan!!

We haven't
seen him in a
year!!!

His Majesty
is back in the
capital!!!



All that's left
is the emperor's
seal, and then the
Spriggan 12 will
agree to abide
by it.

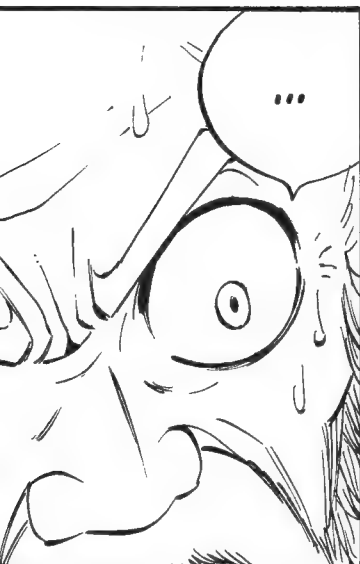


Be at ease. The
proposition of a non-
aggression pact with
Ishgal has long-
since reached His
Majesty's ears.



Oh! Frankly,
I was getting
tired of
waiting...

Ah,
speak of
the devil...



...



Yes...

Where my
family is
waiting...



And once
everything is
settled, you
may return
freely to your
guild.



I...



Long
live His
Majesty!

All
hail the
emperor!

Emperor
Spriggan,
huzzah!



FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 445: The Grotesque Fairy






The
Albareth
Empire...



Welcome
home...



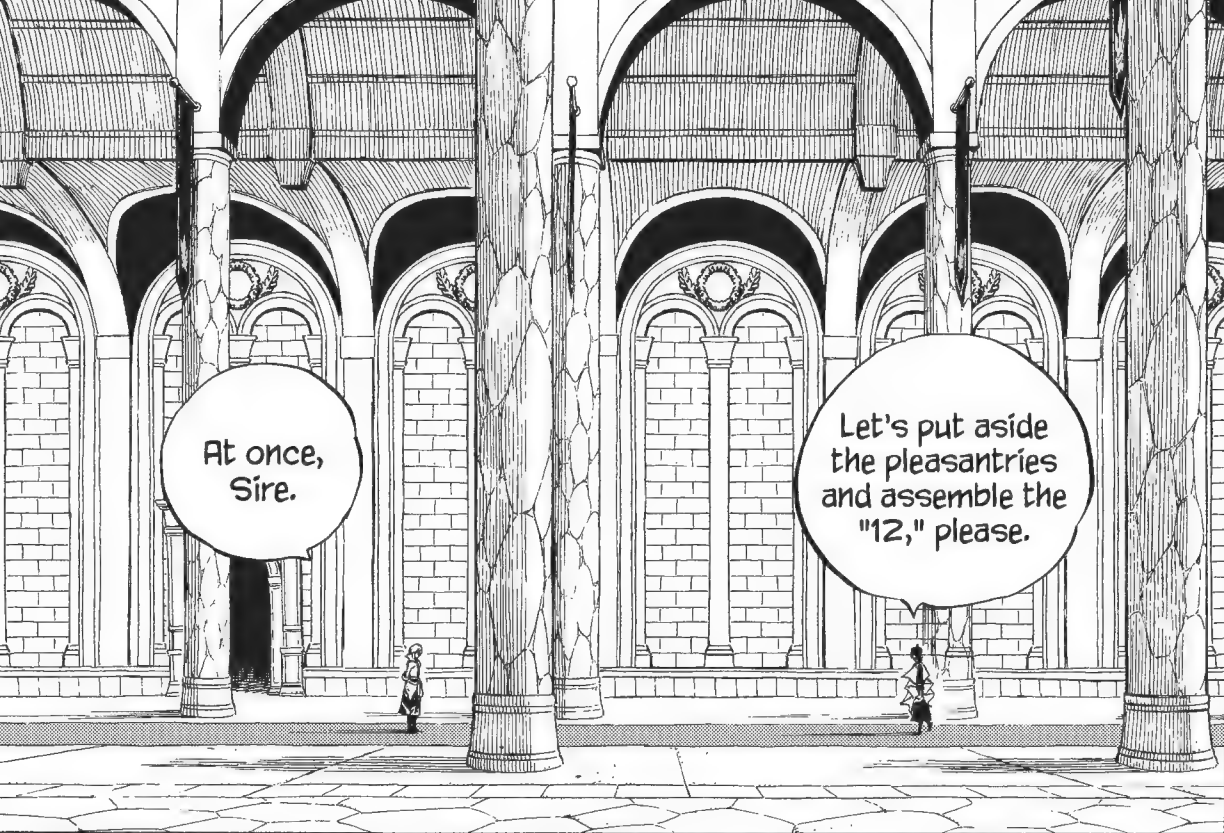
...Your
Majesty.



SPRIGGAN 12
THE WINTER
GENERAL
INVEL

Good
to be
back...

...Invel.



At once,
Sire.

Let's put aside
the pleasantries
and assemble the
"12," please.



Oh,
dear. I'm
just some
capricious
puff of wind
now?

If I could have
foreseen when this
unpredictable
spring breeze would
have first blown
through, I would
have assembled
them in advance.



No... A
deadly, dark
storm.

Wind...

A black
wind...

Desert
!!!!

Your Majesty
is no spring
breeze.

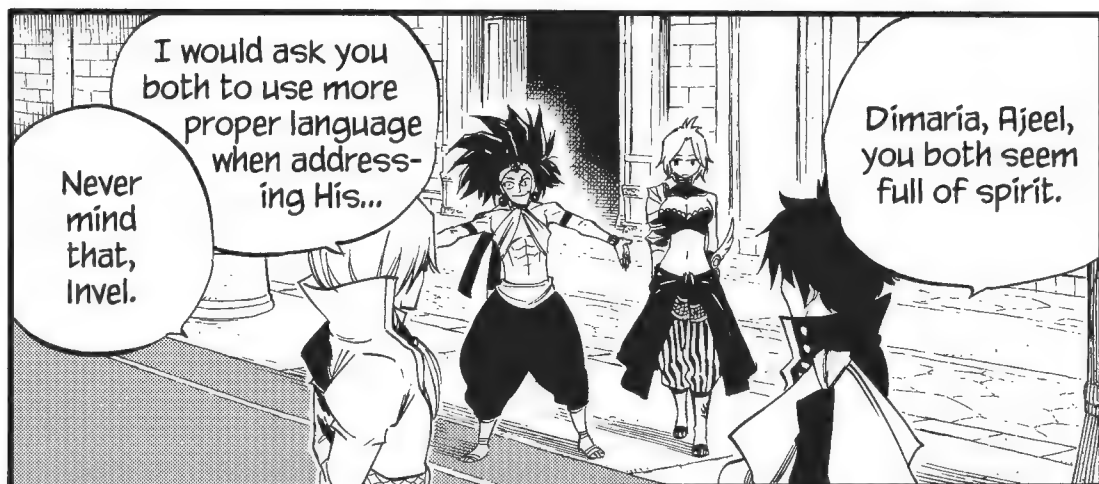
That's right!
Yer like some
sandstorm
that whips its
way across the
dead land!!!

SPRIGGAN 12
DESERT KING

AJEEL RAML

SPRIGGAN 12
WARRIOR QUEEN

**DIMARIA
YESTA**





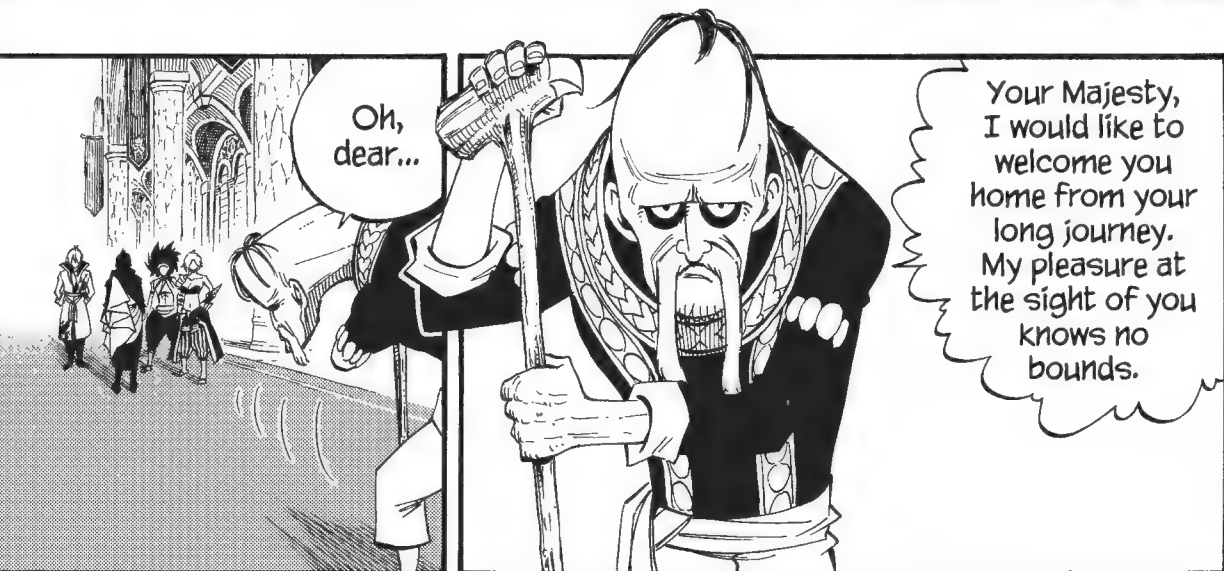
...
regarding
Ragnarök?

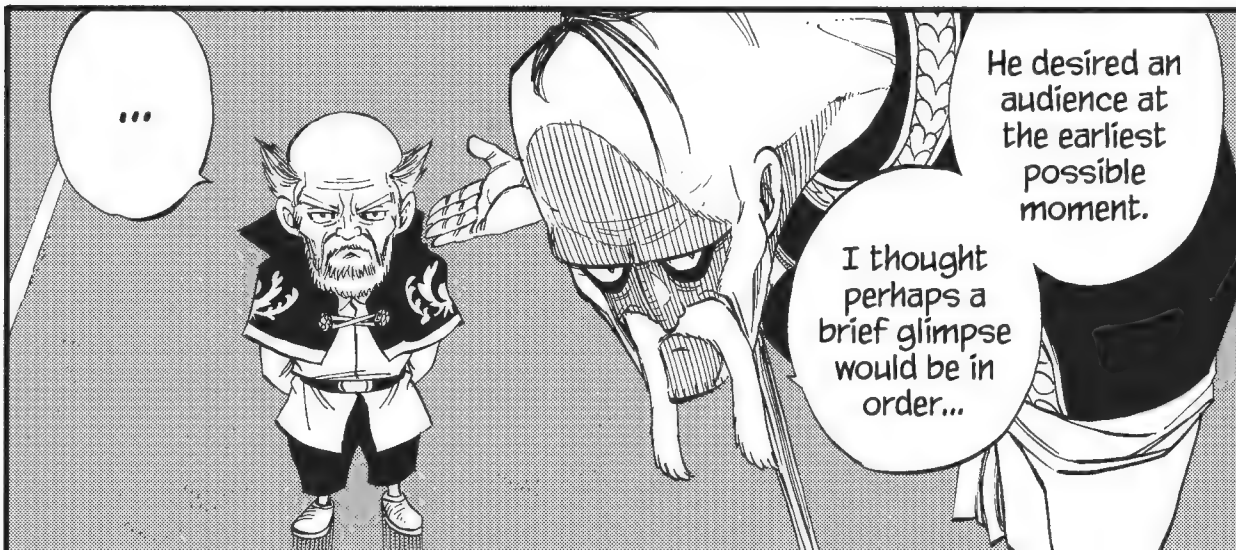
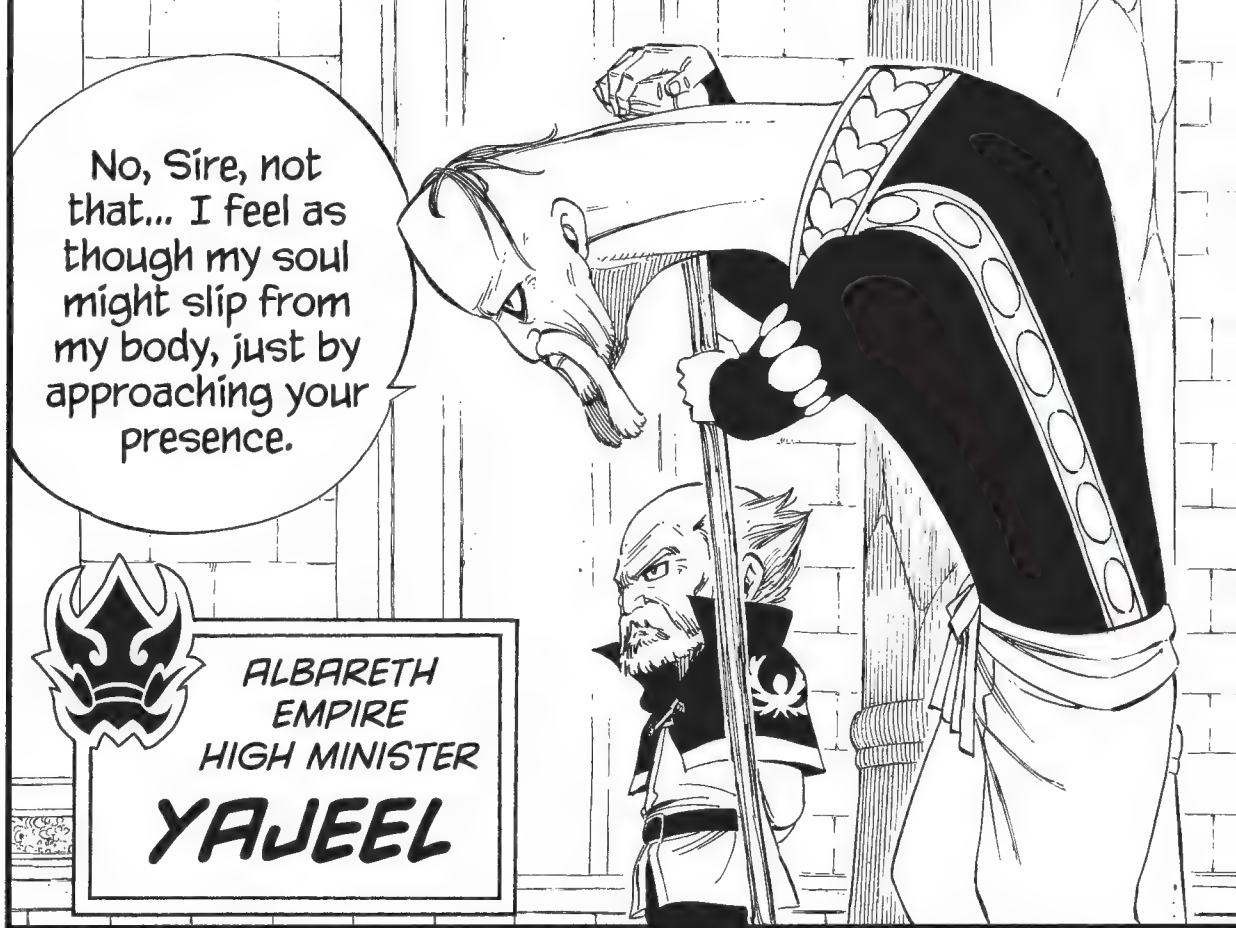


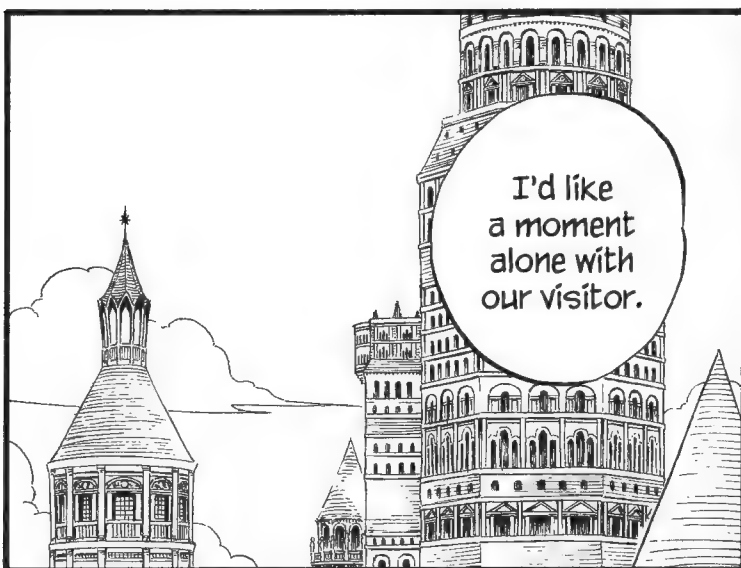
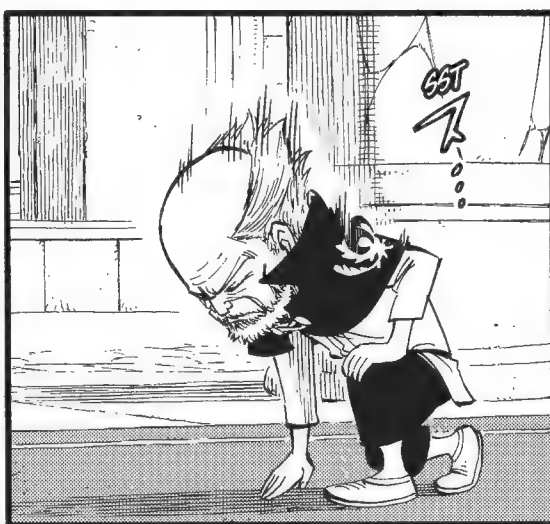
SPRIGGAN 12
WIZARD KING

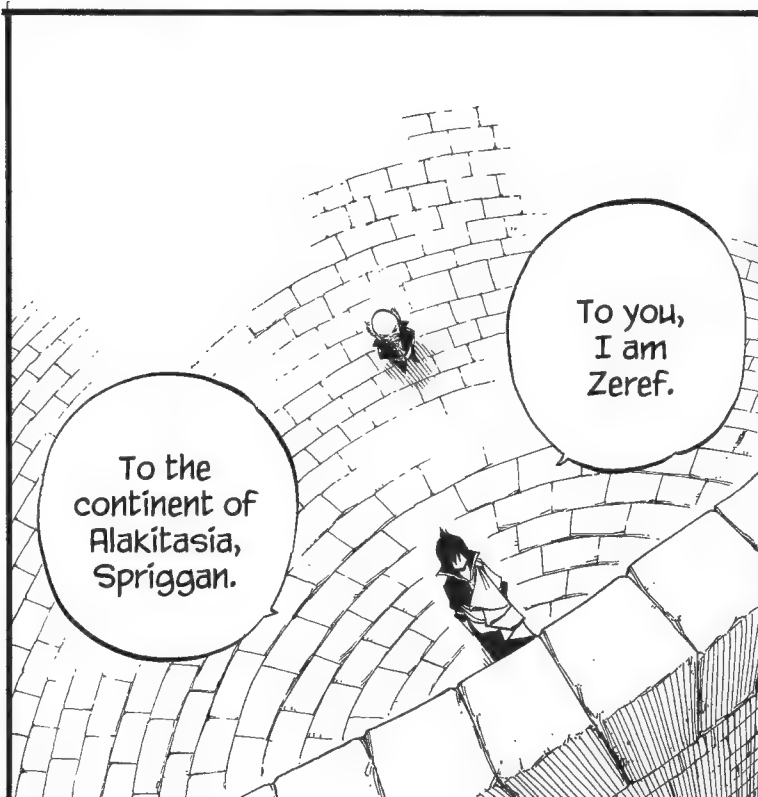
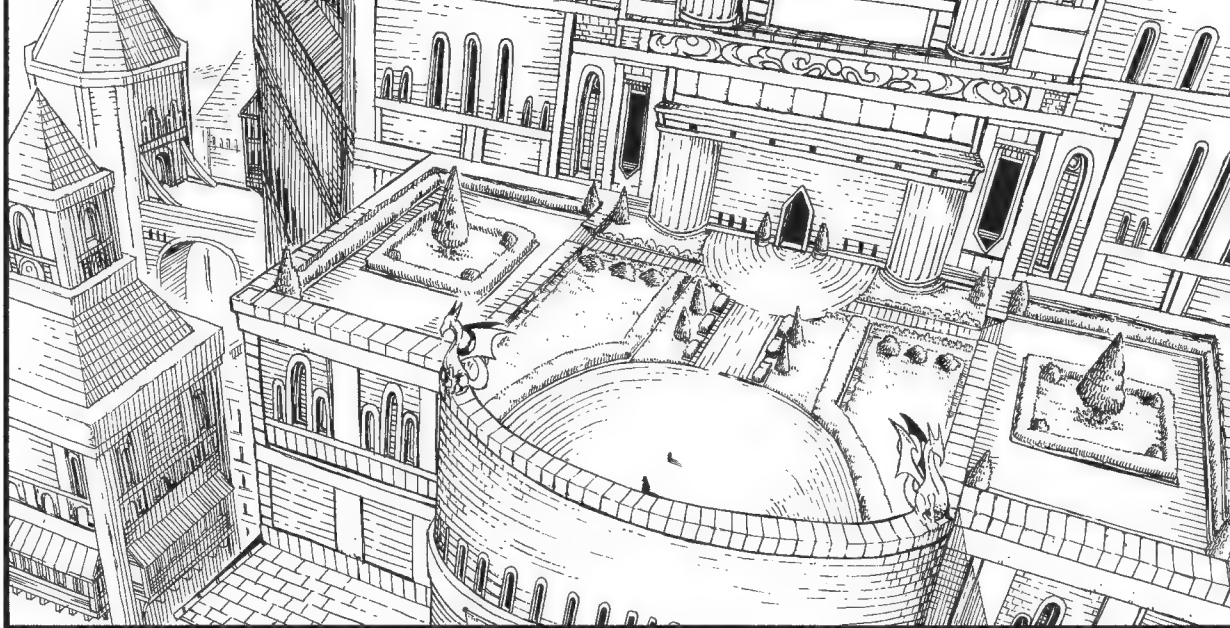
AUGUST

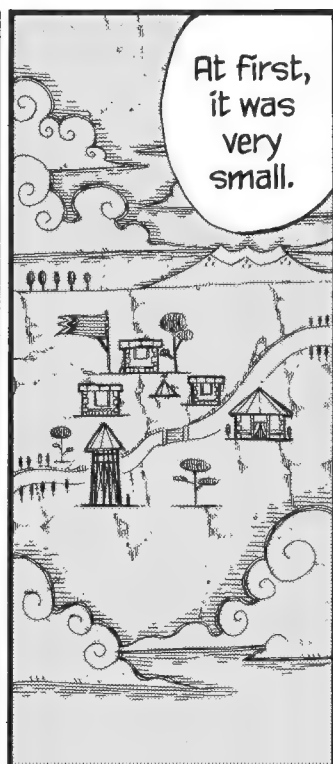
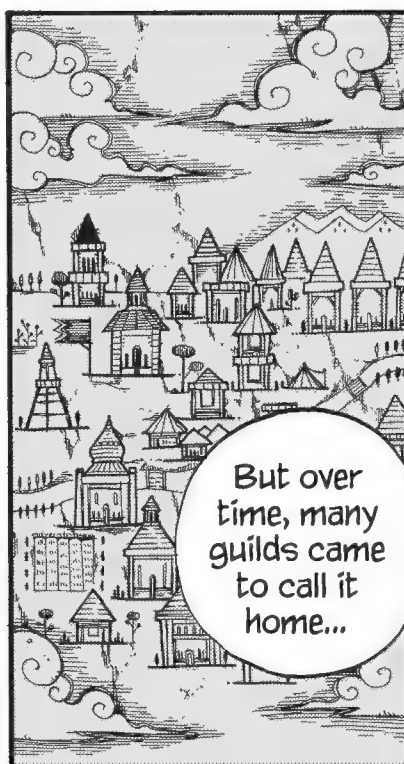
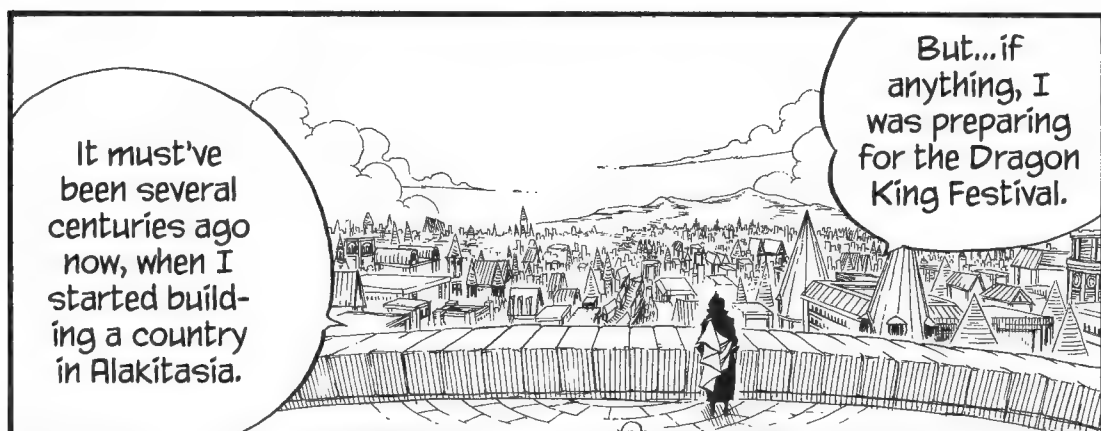
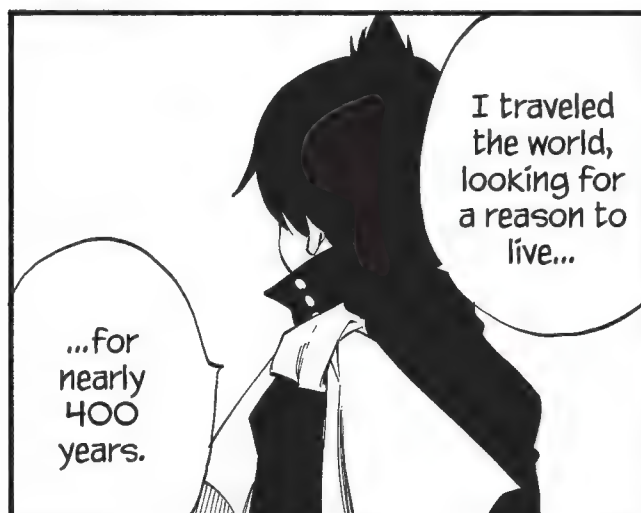
They
call it the
Dragon King
Festival in
Ishgal.









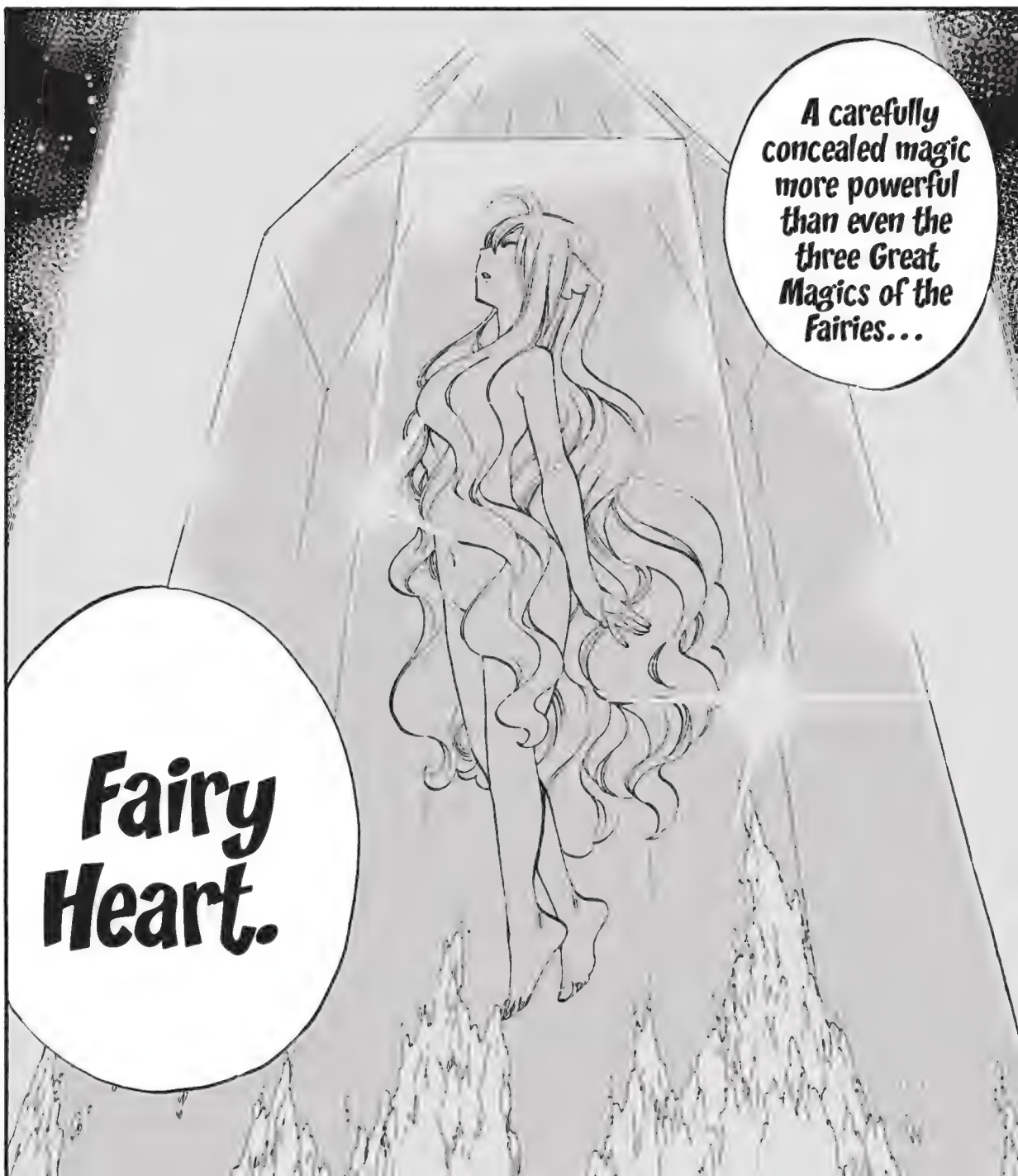




There's
no need for
code names.
I know what
it's officially
called.




All to
get your
hands on
Lumen
Histoire?



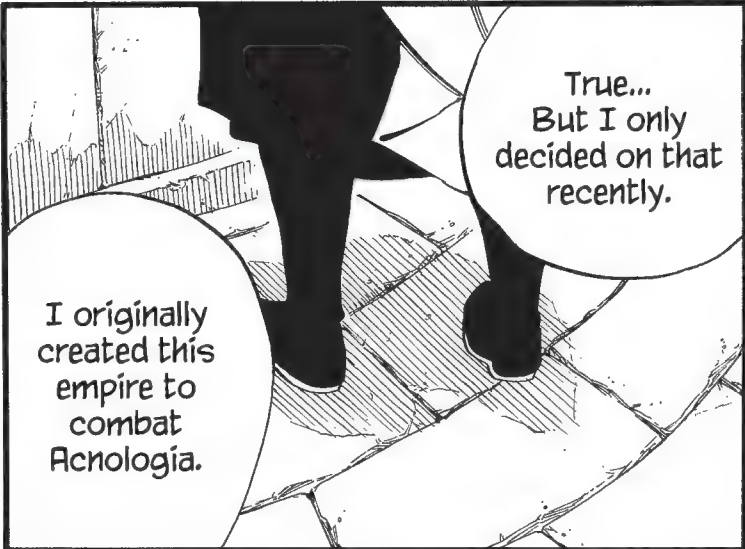
**A carefully
concealed magic
more powerful
than even the
three Great
Magics of the
Fairies...**

**Fairy
Heart.**



You
were after
Fairy Heart
because you
are Zeref.

That
connects
all the
dots.




And it wasn't my
decision to send
in troops ten
years ago.

There was
one member of
the 12 who just
wouldn't listen
to reason.

True...
But I only
decided on that
recently.

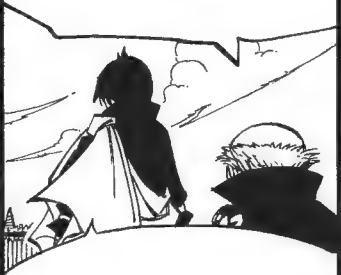
I originally
created this
empire to
combat
Acnologia.



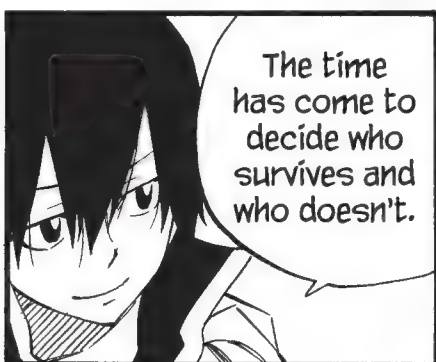
But this time, I
doubt either Ishgal or
Acnologia will stand
a chance against
Albareth.

It wasn't because
of the Council's
weapons? Etherion
and Face?

But I did
put a stop
to the
invasion...
because the
*time wasn't
right.*



Of course that
was a part of it.
They would have
caused *us* wide-
spread damage
as well.





Just
total
annihila-
tion.



**We'll never
let you take
the first
master!!!!**



I'm a bit
grateful
for you,
actually.



II,
WHOOSH



You raised
Natsu for
me. Thank
you.



...?!



Angry
enough to
crush me.



I imagine
he'll be
rather
angry.

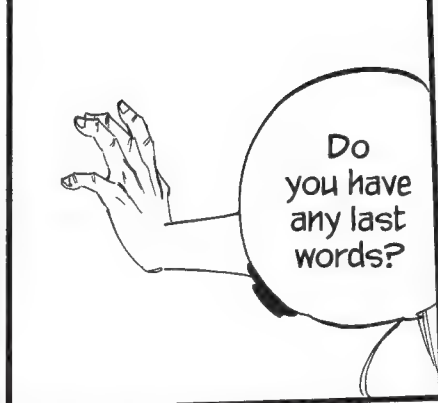


Your
death will
be quick.

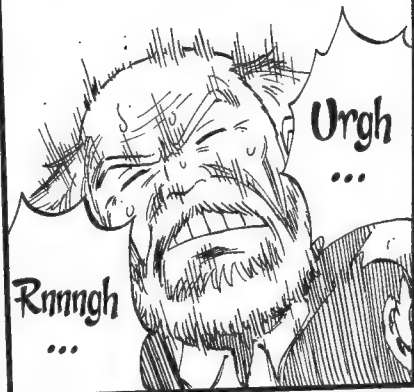
Then,
I'll deliver
your body
to Natsu.



Ngh...
You...

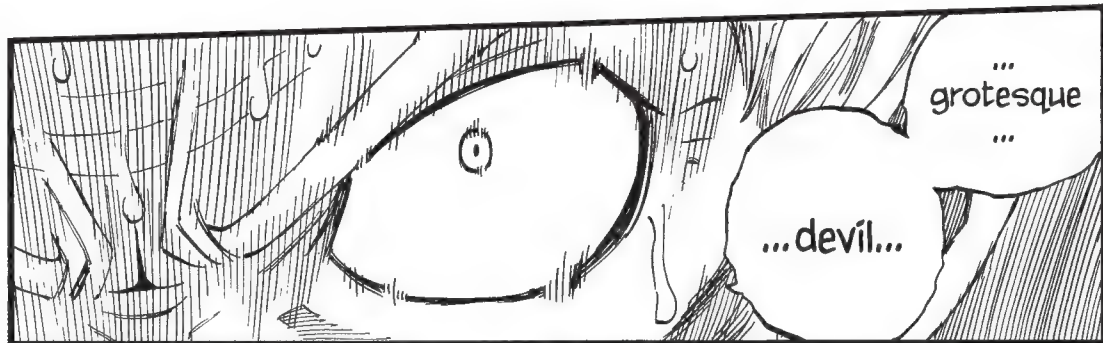


Do
you have
any last
words?



Urgh
...

Rnnngh
...



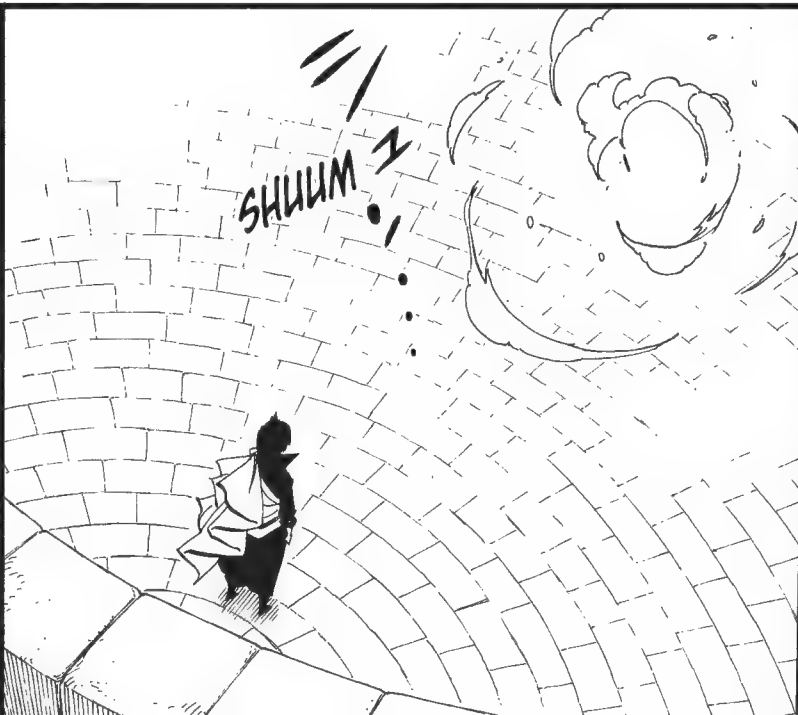
...
grotesque
...

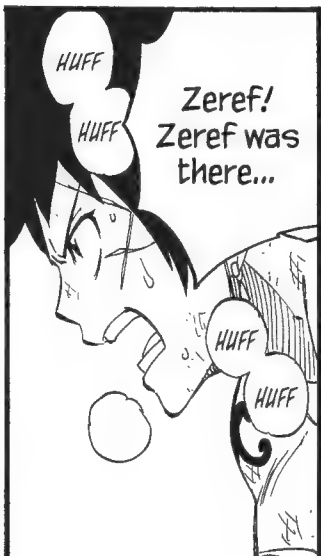
...dévîl...

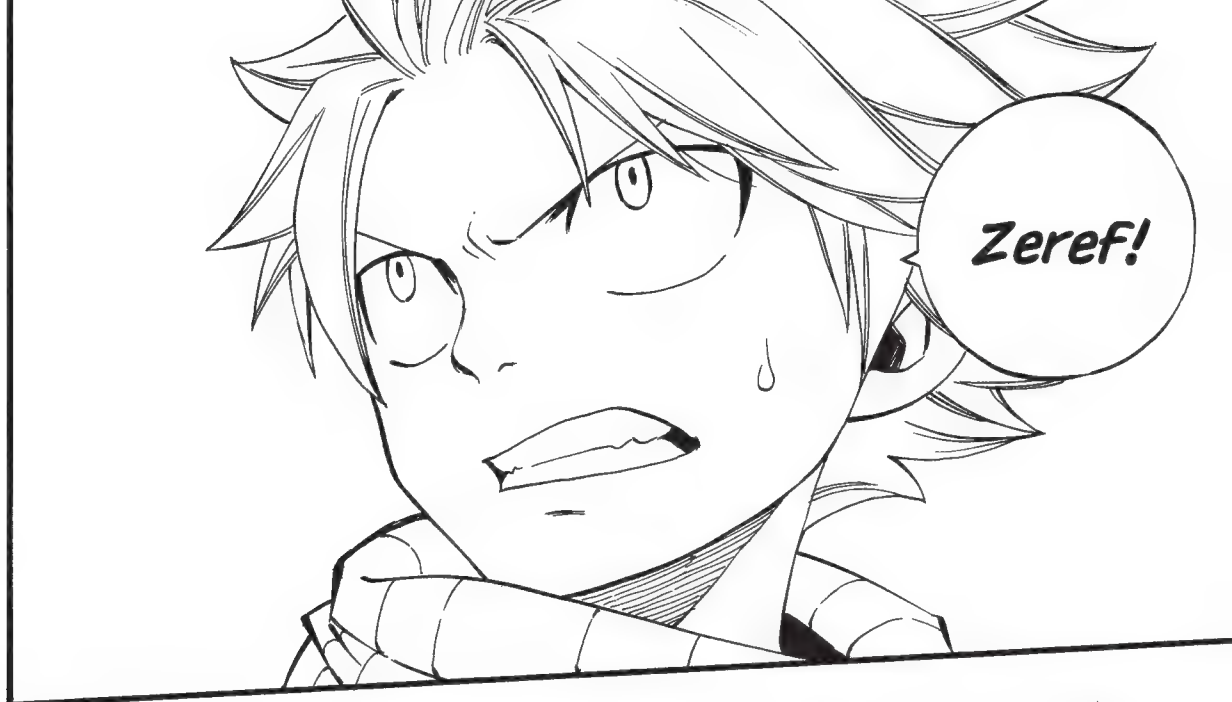


Oh, so
close!

Spriggan
is actually
a name for
a grotesque
fairy.



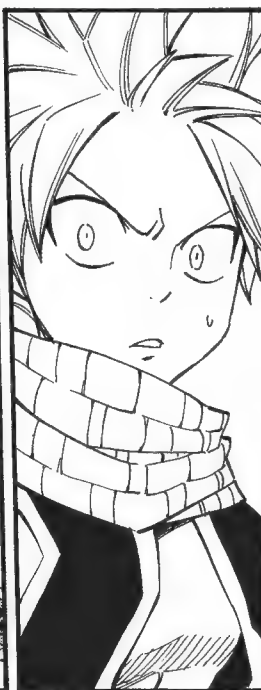
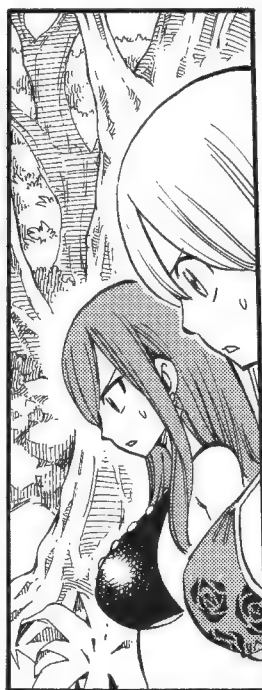
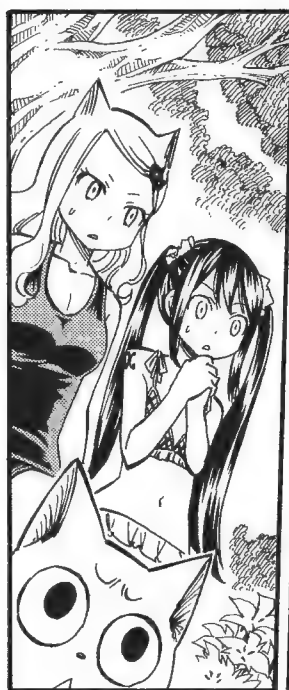
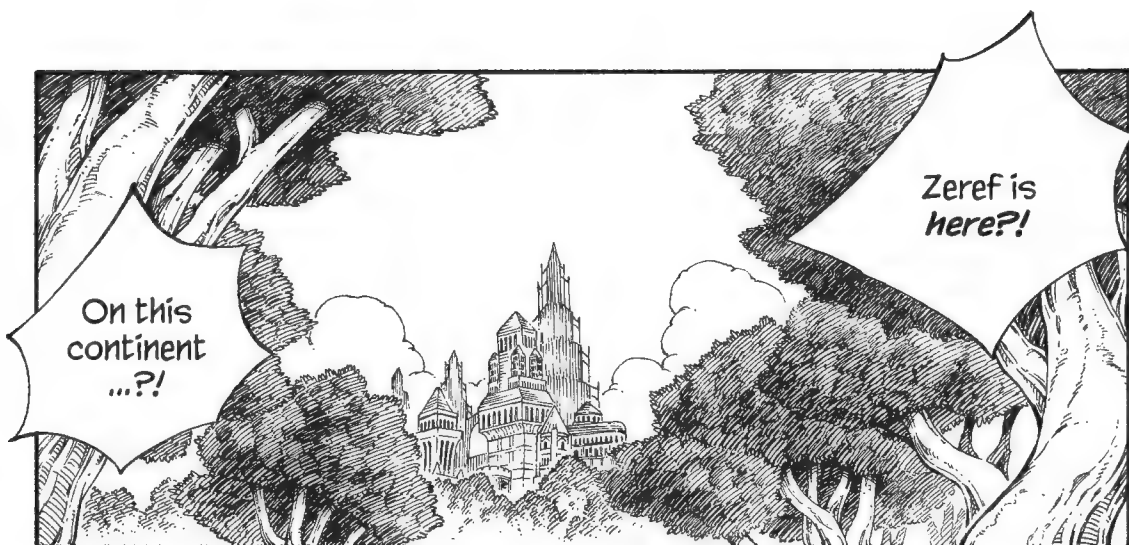






Chapter 446: The Land the Gods Abandoned







Anyway,
we're happy
to have you
back, safe
and sound!

Yes.



...means
that you
heard the
situation
from Mest.

The fact
that you all
are here...



All after
I sullied
the name of
the guild to
come here!



...They had no
intention of
negotiating
from the
start!

I didn't
consider
this deeply
enough...



I've
never
felt such
regret...

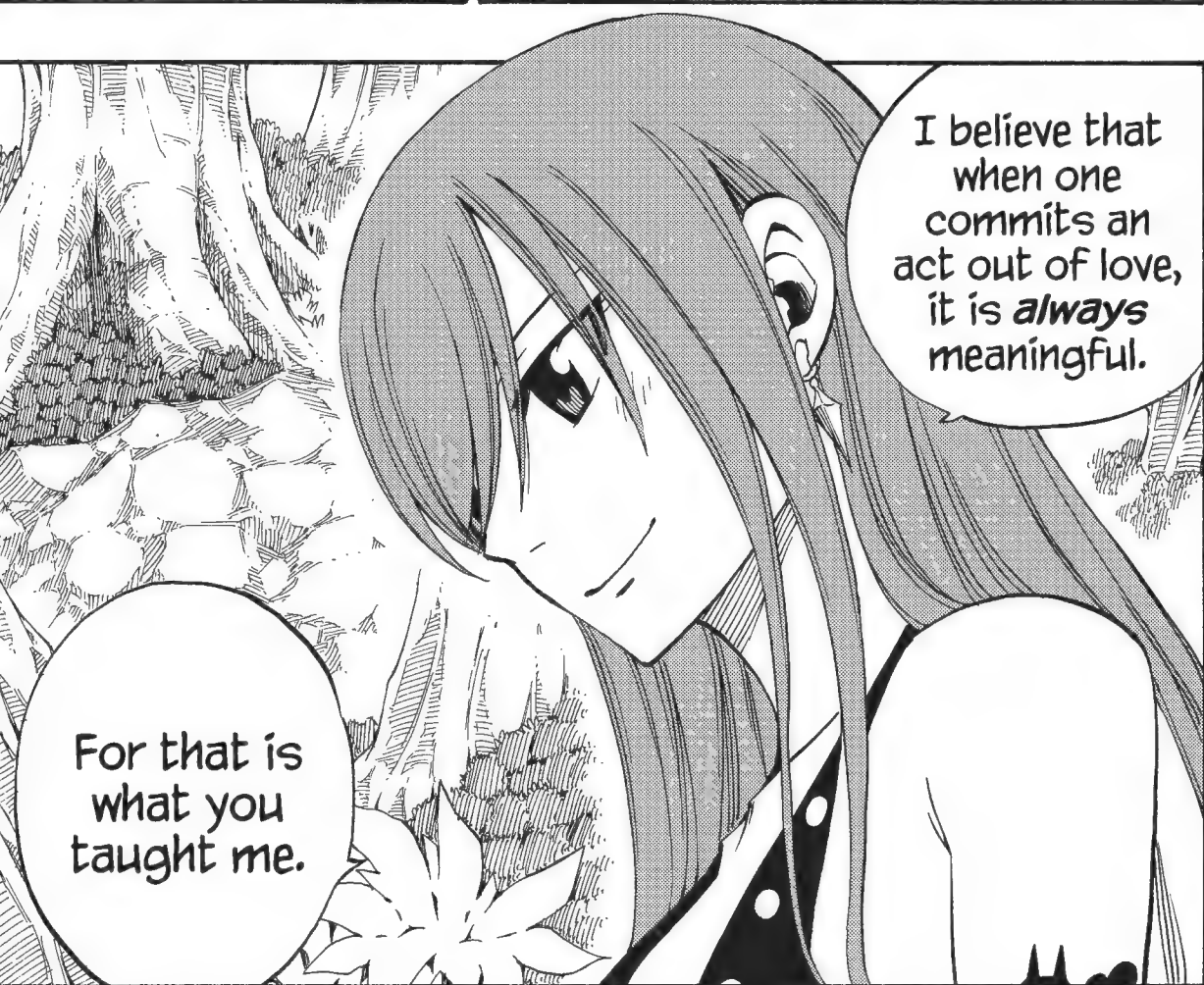
It was all
meaningless.



And after that, we were able to form up as a guild again!

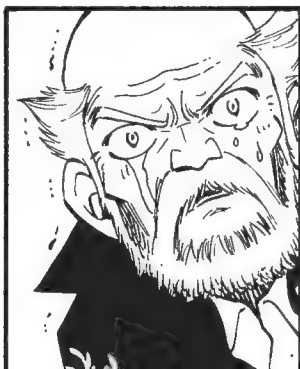
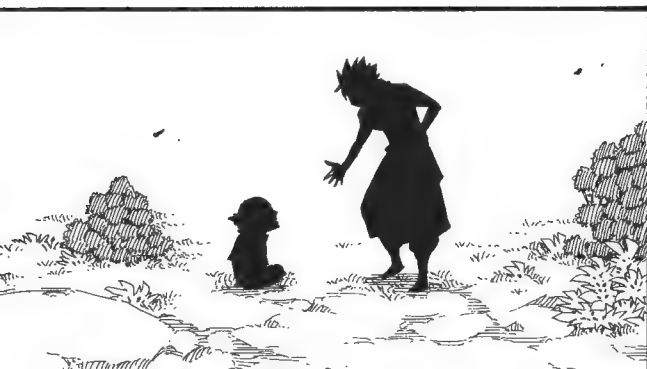
This year made us all that much more mature.

"Meaningless"? Not at all!



I believe that when one commits an act out of love, it is *always* meaningful.

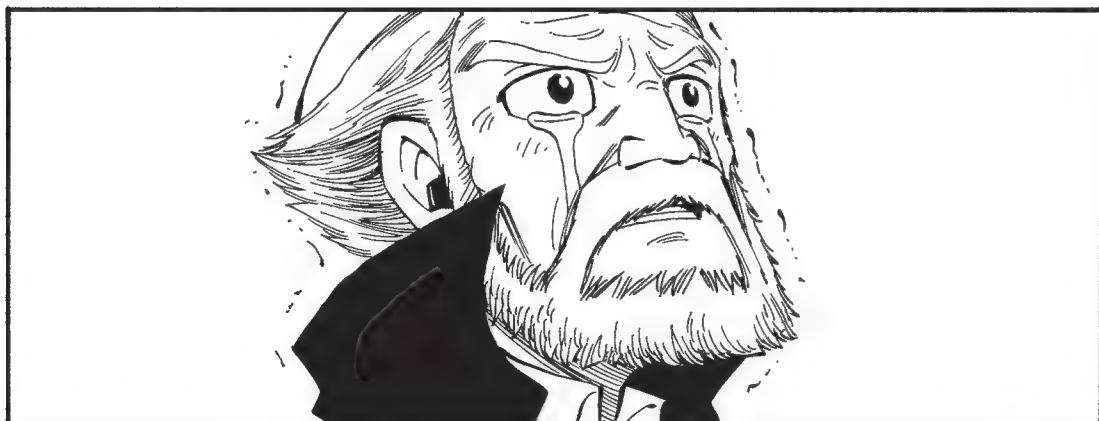
For that is what you taught me.





**Gramps,
let's go
back...**

**...
to Fairy
Tail!**



I've been overusing my Direct Line. I can only transport us all one more time with the magic power I have left.

You're right!

We've got tons to talk about, but first we'd better get a move on.

Who's this...?

Yes...

Escape

Infiltration

Ocean

...but to do that, we'd have to go back to a place where my Direct Line can reach the ship.

I'd love to take us to Sorano's ship...

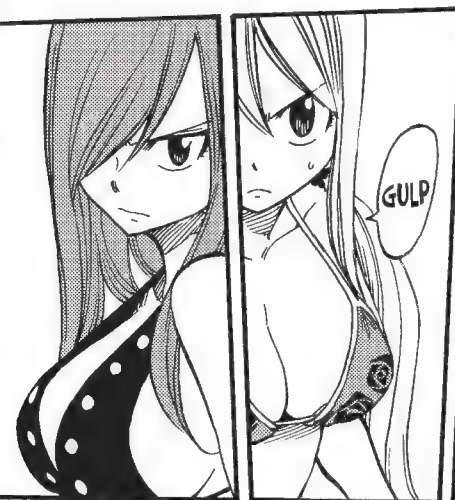


And here I
thought we
were gonna
be great
friends...

Leaving
so soon,
Makarov?

I hope you
remembered
your
souvenirs!

Because
the trip six
feet under is
faster than
you'd think.





No! Don't
try to fight
him!!!!

He's too
strong!
Run!!!



This way! We
have a magic
four-wheeler
waiting!



All of
you!
Re-
treat!

Dammit!

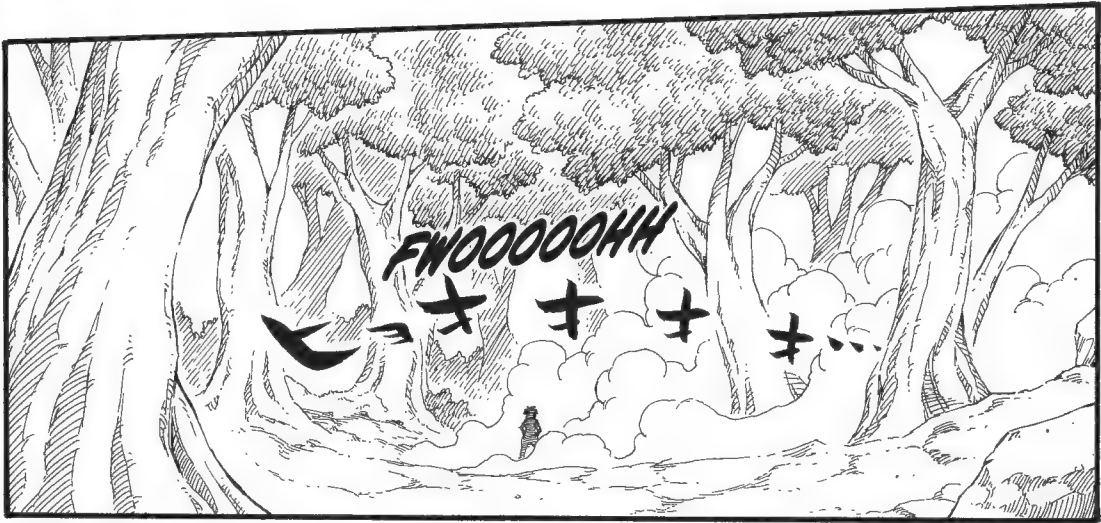
Tsk!

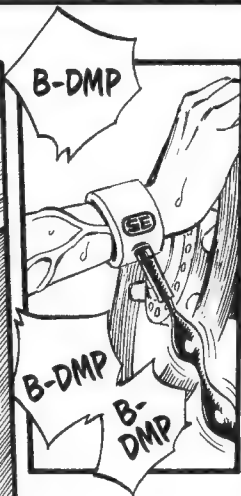
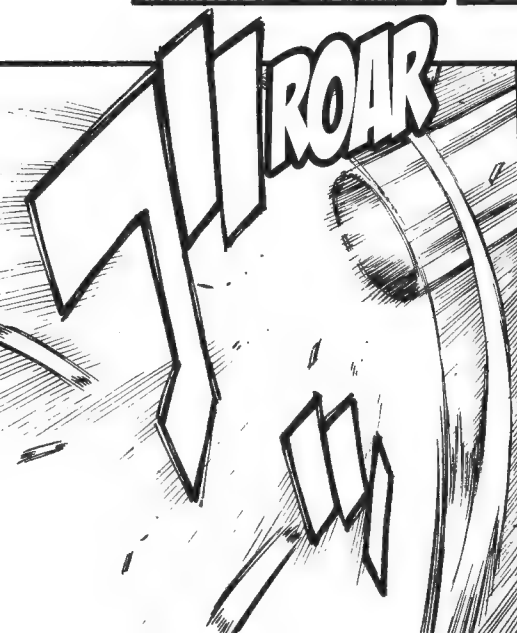
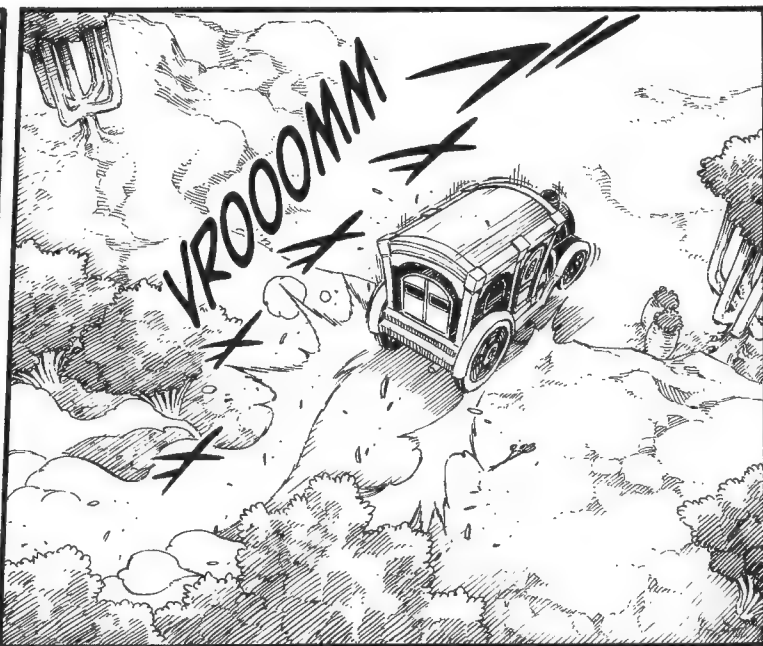


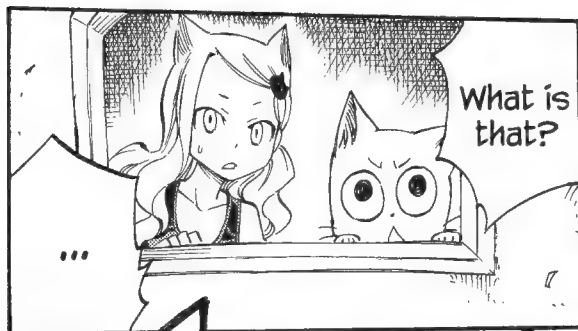
We do as the
master says!
Pull back!

But...









REMEMBER

**Sand
?!!**

**A sand
monster
!!!!**

WROOM

!!

!!





Persistent,
isn't he
...?!



Right!

Lucy!
Let's
hold him
off!

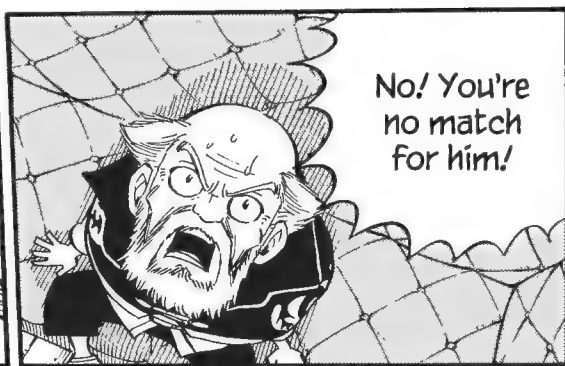


He's
gaining on
us!!



Oh!
Sorry!

URPI!



SHIIIIING

STAR
DRESS
...

...
**SAGITTARIUS
FORM!**

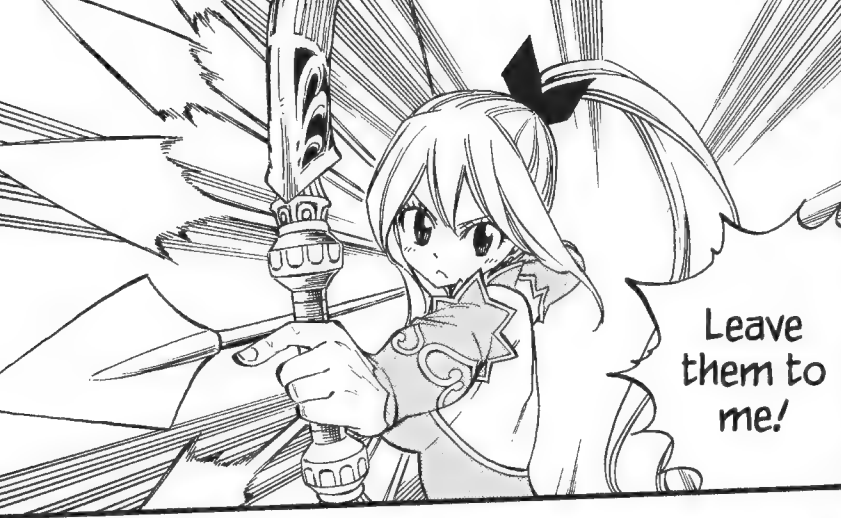
Wait... Lucy, too!
They've gotten so
much stronger in
just one year!!!!

Where did
Gray get
that kind
of magic
power... ?!









Leave
them to
me!



The sand
turned
into mon-
sters!



**STAR
SHOT
!!!!**





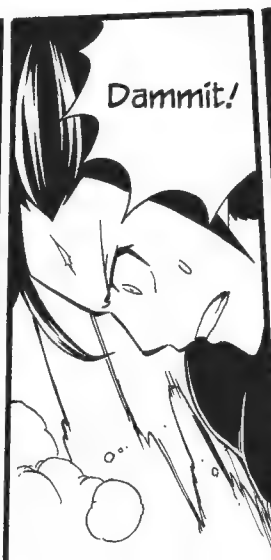
**KWEE
BAKOOM**

**ANT'S
HELL
!!!**

!!



Uwaah!



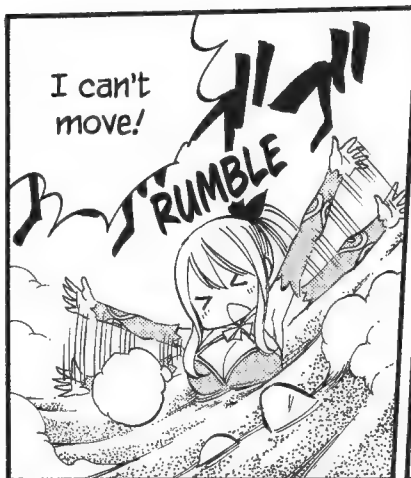
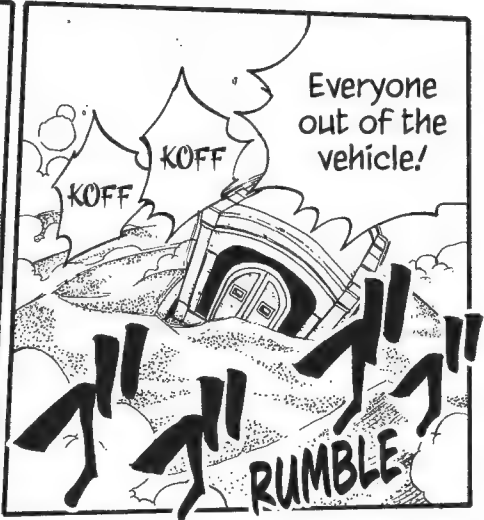
Dammit!



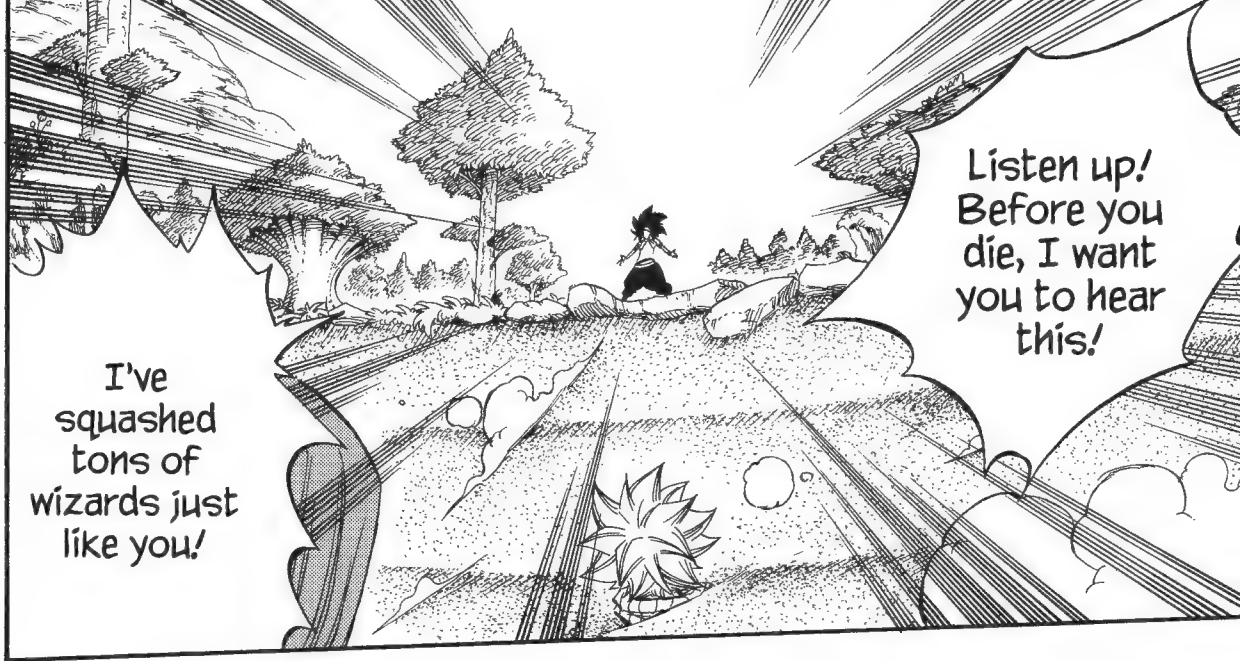
GWURP!



Dammit!







I've
squashed
tons of
wizards just
like you!

Listen up!
Before you
die, I want
you to hear
this!

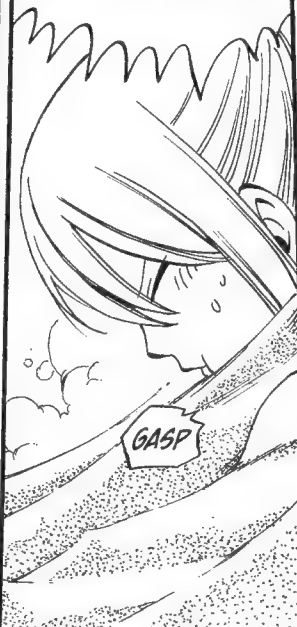


You're not
even in my
league, you
pathetic little
bugs!!!!



Nice! Nice!!
I love those
expressions!

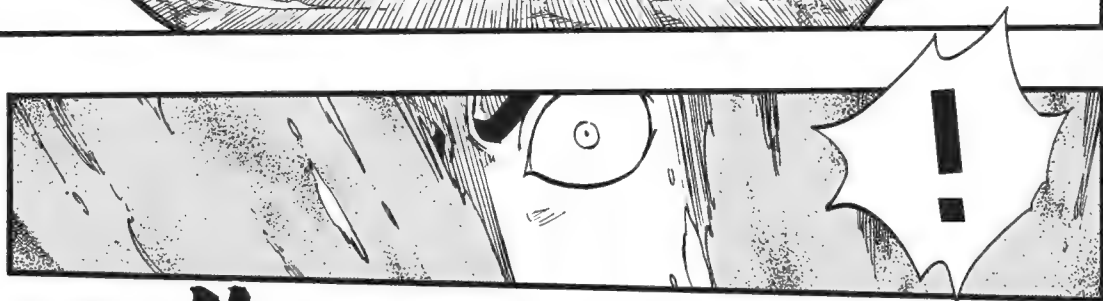
I bet you
just *hate*
that, huh?!
Ah ha ha ha!!



But it's
gonna
come under
Albareth's
control
soon!

Even the
gods have
abandoned
the land of
Ishgal!







BOOM

Because
it's still
got Fairy
Tail!!!



...san—



He
vaporized
the...



BWAH
!!!!

BOOM

TO BE CONTINUED

あとがき

Afterword

Now we've broken into the Albareth Arc! This time, we're going to bring you battles with the toughest enemies we've ever seen. And maybe this will even lead to the final battle with Zeref! The enemy boss characters are also the 12 strongest characters in the history of this series!

And it's really tough to draw! Okay, we haven't seen everyone yet, but they're all so quirky! I figure one of the great pleasures of a battle manga is trying to guess who will take on who, right? And it'd make me really happy if you'd all start to imagine the possibilities!

Now, about the Spriggan 12—there was a fight over the number 12. My editor was of the opinion that five or six would do. And it's true, 12 is a lot of characters. It's hard to remember the names of all of them, and when each one has a battle, it makes you wonder just how long this arc will go on. But there's a bit of a secret reason for it, so we finally decided on leaving it at 12.

We still haven't decided on every plot twist that we'll be facing yet, but the battles are going to be on fire! So everyone, fasten your seat belts and prepare for a great ride!!

EMERGENCY REQUEST! EXPLAIN THE MYSTERIES OF F.T.!

In a coffee shop in Magnolia...



Mira: Hi everybody! Long time no see!



Lucy: Huh? You mean this column hasn't been canceled?

Lucy: No, we're fine. After all, this is a manga with a lot to complain about.

Mira: So, shall we get to the first question?

Was Minerva able to return to being human?



Lucy: You know, I was worried about that, too!

Mira: Well, after the battle, Porlyusica did everything she could to treat her and get her back to her original body, but...

Lucy: She *did* become a demon, didn't she?

Mira: But don't worry! You wouldn't know it just by looking at me, but I'm kind of a human-demon mix, too.



You know, you say some really scary things in a very calm voice.



And on to the next question!

The future Rogue said that it was Gray who killed Frosch... and he didn't. Which is good, but it brings up a new question: In the future that the future Rogue came from, why did Gray want to kill Frosch?



Lucy: ...

Mira: ...

Lucy: See! It's because the author does a lot on the fly that the situation becomes questionable.

Mira: I don't mean this as an excuse, but at the time, they had Rogue speaking vaguely on purpose...



Continued on the right-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.

Mira: ...because at the time, Frosch's killer wasn't actually set in stone.

Lucy: Whoa! Truth bomb!

Mira: Of course, it had been given some thought, and Gray was among those under consideration.

Lucy: In other words, different people were also under consideration, huh?

Mira: Well, it felt like it was good timing to attribute it to Gray, but then some fans called us out on it.

Lucy: Still, it became a part of the story, so we gotta fix up those loose ends, right?

Mira: You're right... But I don't think this was all that inconsistent, except that maybe Gray didn't have much motivation to kill Frosch.



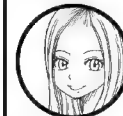
In the future that future Rogue came from, Gray's body may have been under an evil influence, right?

Mira: Either way, I'm glad that future never came true.

So smart phones have finally appeared in the FT world, huh?



To be more exact, it's a small-type communications lacrima.



Warren was working the whole year on it!

Lucy: And it's really convenient!

Mira: But it isn't like the cellphones where you guys live.

Lucy: First, it runs on magic power.

Mira: And the distance it can work on is pretty limited.

Lucy: Warren once said...



But I intend to make them so they can be used throughout Fiore...no, bigger! Throughout the whole continent!

Lucy: And he was pretty worked up when he said it.

Mira: Well, it's certainly possible. But I hear he really made a lot of money off it so far.



What?!

Mira: Rumor has it, he's made enough for even his grandchildren to live in luxury!

Lucy: I can't believe he'd return to the guild after being so successful...



Mmhm! And despite it all, when he got your letter, he chose the guild over that.



Thank you, Warren! Thank you!

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a post card or at post-card size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

FAIRY TAIL de ART

Everyone in their chibi form! I like this picture!



Saitama Prefecture, Gray

Chiba Prefecture, Yû Takayama



▲ This is rare! A picture of Mard Geer in his Etherious form!

Saitama Prefecture, Ryû Shimono



▲ The outfit's an original design! It's cute! Thanks!!

Hiroshima Prefecture, Taichi Kobayashi



▲ Ohh!! Thank you!! That love really comes through!!

Osaka, Yumika Asano



▲ Seira was both beautiful and scary during the Tartaros arc, huh? What impression did she leave on you all?

Saitama Prefecture, Saeri Nomoto



▲ Christmas! And so cute! I think it's great that Lucy's the reindeer and not Happy!

Niigata Prefecture, Strawberry Daifuku



▲ Ohh! An Erza postcard!! Erza looks really good in that get-up!



They're going to include this scene in its entirety in a special DVD in Japan!

Saitama Prefecture, Sayaka Suzuki



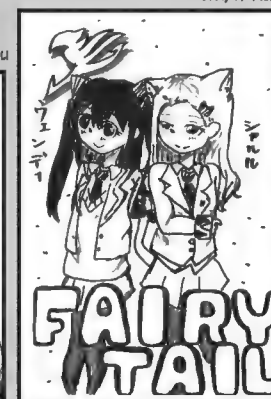
▲ Cool!! And really well done!! These two also came out great in the anime, too!

Ibaraki Prefecture, Hanae Shibata



▲ Look at all the characters!! Must have been a tough one to draw.

Tokyo, Haha



▲ These two are always great friends. And I'm sure they'll play a big part really soon!

Tokyo, Be Alice



▲ I want her to show up again! I really like her character, too!



Nagano Prefecture, Sariko

Hiroshima Prefecture, Sabu



▲ An oddly adult-looking Natsu. This type is nice, too, every now and then, huh?

By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.

MAVIAAL

フェアリーテイル

52



SPRIGGAN 12

HIRO 真島ヒロ MASHIMA



SPRIGGAN 12

FROM HIRO NASHIMA



I went to a signing in Okinawa. It was in September, but it was still so hot!

There were a lot of people who came, and it was great fun! Not to mention the fact that they served really delicious food.

The problem was that I was so busy that I was stuck in the hotel coming up with storyboards during my long-awaited trip!

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 41, Spriggan

The Emperor of the Albareth Empire is known as Emperor Spriggan. A spriggan is a mythical creature out of fairy lore from Cornwall in England, or, more particularly, the community of West Penwith. Spriggans are supposed to be grotesquely ugly creatures that guard treasures in old ruins and burial mounds. Of course, the emperor might have a good reason for calling himself that.

Page 82, "μ"

The Greek letter "μ" is pronounced "myu" in Japanese. It has many different meanings, any of which may (or may not) have something to do with Brandish's character. For example, in Greek numerals, it represents the number 40, it was drawn from the Egyptian hieroglyph for water, and it is the symbol for micrometer, which is a very tiny unit of length.

Page 136, Ajeel Raml

During the translation of the weekly chapters for online publication, the translator originally spelled Ajeel's name as Ajeel Rommul, noting the similarity between Ajeel Rommul, the Desert King and the WWII German general, Erwin Rommel, the Desert Fox. However, as Ajeel started performing magic in later chapters, and the names of his attacks included Arabic words, they realized that his name was, in fact, Raml, the Arabic word for "sand." We apologize for any confusion.



RAGNARÖK, THE FINAL BATTLE BEGINS!!

Next Time...

When Natsu and the Fairy Tail wizards learn the sad secret, they burn with the will to fight the Albareth Empire!!

It has begun, Natsu...

Let's show them the power of the guild!

We cannot afford to lose this!

E.N.D. ...

Zeref is after Fairy Tail and its biggest secret—**Fairy Heart!** There lies the hidden secret of Mavis's crime!

I got a secret plan for that right here!!!!

I can take Zeref down!

The air above Magnolia is riddled with enemy ships!!
With zero chance of winning, what will be Fairy Tail's fate?!

I won't let you near my kids!!!

I have to get out there, too!

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

53

ON SALE MARCH 2016

**FINALLY, A LOWER-COST
OMNIBUS EDITION OF FAIRY TAIL!
CONTAINS VOLUMES 1-5.
ONLY \$39.99!**

**KODANSHA
COMICS**

**-NEARLY 1,000 PAGES!
-EXTRA LARGE 7"X10.5" TRIM SIZE!
-HIGH-QUALITY PAPER!**



Fairy Tail takes place in a world filled with magic. 17-year-old Lucy is a wizard-in-training who wants to join a magic guild so that she can become a full-fledged wizard. She dreams of joining the most famous guild, known as Fairy Tail. One day she meets Natsu, a boy raised by a dragon which vanished when he was young. Natsu has devoted his life to finding his dragon father. When Natsu helps Lucy out of a tricky situation, she discovers that he is a member of Fairy Tail, and our heroes' adventure together begins.

FAIRY TAIL

© Hiro Mashima/Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

MASTER'S EDITION

FAIRY TAIL

BLUE MISTRAL

Wendy's Very Own Fairy Tail!

The new adventures of everyone's favorite Sky Dragon Slayer, Wendy Marvell, and her faithful friend Carla!



KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

Available Now!

© Hiro Mashima/Rui Watanabe/Kodansha, Ltd. All rights reserved.

DEVIL SURVIVOR

AFTER DEMONS BREAK THROUGH INTO THE HUMAN WORLD, TOKYO MUST BE QUARANTINED. WITHOUT POWER AND STUCK IN A SUPERNATURAL WARZONE, 17-YEAR-OLD KAZUYA HAS ONLY ONE HOPE: HE MUST USE THE "COMP", A DEVICE CREATED BY HIS COUSIN NAOYA CAPABLE OF SUMMONING AND SUBDUING DEMONS, TO DEFEAT THE INVADERS AND TAKE BACK THE CITY.

BASED ON THE POPULAR
VIDEO GAME FRANCHISE BY
ATLUS!

Fairy Tail volume 52

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

STORY and ART BY Hiro Mashima

Fairy Tail volume 52 copyright © 2015 Hiro Mashima

English translation copyright © 2016 Hiro Mashima

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2016 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682332016

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: William Flanagan

Lettering: AndWorld Design

Editing: Haruko Hashimoto

Kodansha Comics edition cover design by Phil Balsman

TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different
type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*,
go to the *end*!

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!